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The Drama of Destiny

—KARL HANNO—

with Descriptions of his Two Plays.

MILWAUKEE, WIS.

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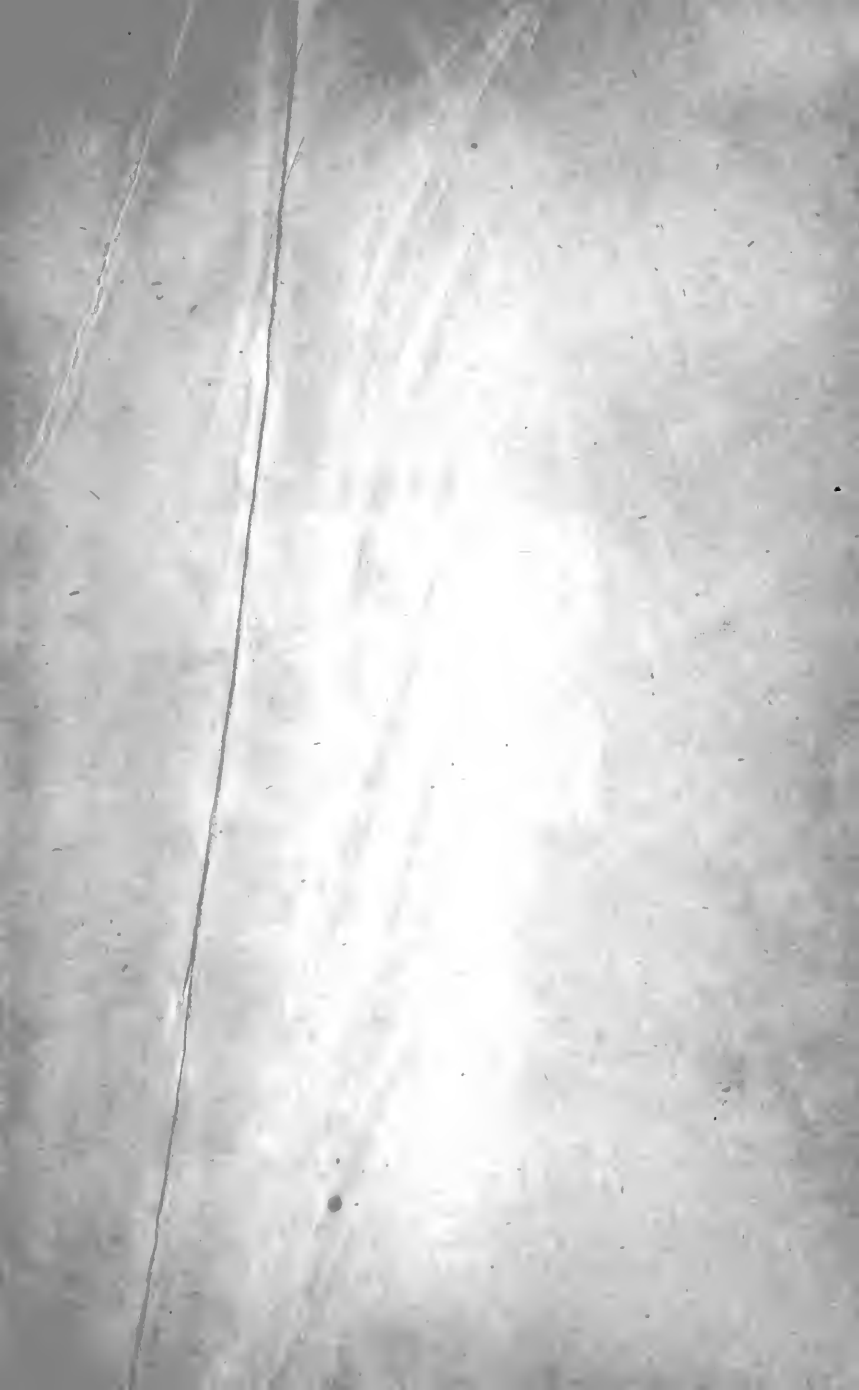
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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.





THE DRAMA OF DESTINY---KARL HANNO,

—BY—

A. PAUL GABBERT.

In this Production the author endeavors to define the question whether, or not, man is the Maker of his own Destiny.

PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHOR,
1900.
QUINCY, ILLINOIS.



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PREFATORY NOTE.

If there is anything of interest to man, it is his destiny. Man, of whatever shade or color he may be is, more or less, concerned in the problem of life which was set before him when he was called upon to work out his destiny. As a man, he was endowed with a mental faculty in co-operation with his physical strength to make his life effective, and upon his success will depend his happiness and welfare. Considering that man is acting in accordance with his free will, the successful man is naturally inclined to the belief that man is the maker of his own destiny. And while he believes this, he is giving offense to his unfortunate brother who missed success. His unfortunate brother, who was just as active as he was, naturally believes now that man is *not* the maker of his own destiny. And right here arises the point of dispute. It is not the intention of the author to make an investigation of this subject in order to explain the cause of the effect produced by the action of Destiny; the author contents himself merely with furnishing an illustration that will show the wonderful dispensation of things by Destiny, as regards life, over which man has no power. This can be shown best by a dramatic production in which the course of events take place in connection with man's activity: Men are seen making plans; Destiny steps in and disposes of them while the observer watches the performance. In this way the reader can see more clearly than in any other way, the cause, and the effect influencing man's destiny.

The reader is kindly reminded that this production was not intended for the stage and it was therefore thought unnecessary to specify the scene in the smaller details.

The author asks his reader kindly to do him *one* favor. It is this: Begin with the first line in this book, read it through to the end without skipping anything. The reason for this is because the reader must be made thoroughly acquainted with the preparations for the plot laid else he will not be able to understand it when the plot is carried into effect. Besides this the author shall be glad to know that the reader is benefited by "The Drama of Destiny—Karl Hanno." This edition is only a part of the subject and the remainder of Karl Hanno's destiny, which belongs to Part I., will be published in the next edition.

A. PAUL GABBERT.



The Drama of Destiny--Karl Hanno.

PART I.

SECTION 1.

[SCENE—Karl Hanno, a man of thirty-eight years, and single, is seated on a bundle of evergreen surrounded by trees comprising the edge of a forest alongside of a mountain-meadow apparently weary and alone. His appearance gives evidence of poverty, and in the face of misfortune he enters into a short conversation with himself. He is met by Titus, a former friend, a man of forty-one years, who is married, apparently in better circumstances, and by whom he is also overheard in the last part of his story.]

Karl Hanno.—And I shall now proceed to the solitary and live henceforth the life of a hermit. And there, perhaps, I shall find a method by which to explain at least one mystery in which all humanity is concerned—the Invisible Force. They have hinted to me man holds superior rank in creation, but one or two object lessons have taught me the powers that have sway over all men. I was told shrewdness, dash, sagacity, a fearless self confidence commanding success, but they could not explain why I suffered defeat and calamity when in the battle of life I behaved well with all this valor. Therefore do I begin to be suspicious, and my situation causes me alarm. Why is this so? Heaven knows, I am left to myself. Therefore shall I go to the solitary and speculate on mystery.

I shall do this, and then say to Motherearth: Motherearth! here is thy son that thou hast neg-

lected—as thou hast given immense treasures to others, by which means they indulge in happiness and pleasure, while I fall short of anything but a scanty existence; Motherearth! I have displayed a greater activity than those and I have strained my muscles in productive labor with an equal degree of intelligence, yet am I one only of the second or third grade; Motherearth! yes! thou hast sorely neglected me, and the bond of my poverty is evidence against thee. Therefor have I now refused to serve thee any longer. And Motherearth will then say to me: My son! thou art unfair in thy judgment, and the art of thy reasoning is committing offence against me; for I am in no way the cause of thy unhappiness, and thy grievance cannot be removed here. Behold the existence of a Higher Ordinance set forth by the all embracing intelligence. Fortune, or misfortune, is meted out to thee by destiny fixed by the Maker of all Things. If Motherearth is right the mystery is solved. If Motherearth is right I must unconditionally surrender to my destiny, fixed at the day of my birth, which after this period can never be changed by any manner of act on my part. And in my case I say, “I see there is no hope for me.”

The solitary!

(*Karl Hanno is met by Titus as he starts.*)

Titus.—Karl Hanno, Prisoner of Poverty: If you will but listen and follow me you may at once remove all of your grievance and your sinking hope will rise like the bright morning star, but if you will not follow me then I solemnly say, “I see no hope for thee.” I know as well as I need to know that by the strength of your muscles you have tried

ever so hard to overcome the odds of poverty and to establish more happy conditions, but you have failed in your purpose. Now, when by the hardest licks indeed there is nothing accomplished it is well for a man of ambition to avail himself of a piece of heroism if thereby he can accomplish great results. It sounds like a novel.

Listen!

"There is a deserted city on the hill
Of crystal shape, entirely filled with gold,
And whosoever will may go and freely fill
His trunk therefrom, as much as it may hold."

This I know, and the fact taken in its full measure, and followed by an act of a proper execution will prove that while others toil all life to acquire treasures, here is a chance to make a fortune at one move.

Only this:

There is between us and the city filled with gold a river over which is neither a bridge nor a ferry established; this we must necessarily swim across, and as I have said, 'tis a good piece of heroism, as this is one of the greatest rivers in the world. But we will do it, as it can be done. Now let us proceed hence to this illustrious city and seize these earthly treasures and so secure for ourselves a fortune at once that by this means we may sweeten life to please the soul.

Are you ready?

Hanno.—This is Crystal City.

Titus.—So it is

Hanno. Listen! It sounds like a novel:

This river I have tried to the uttermost
To cross, but in vain, and I saw a ghost,
And what do you suppose he said to me?
"Kee Kee, Ree Kee, no hope for thee!"

Ah! you were not aware, Titus, that, inflamed by the thought of gold as once I was, I have tested the truth of this scheme and I deny that we are able to swim across the river.

Titus.—Explain yourself.

Hanno.—Why the tide of this river flows with such rapidity that whosoever shall venture to swim across is doomed to a fatal consequence, for such is the regulation of its natural laws. Hence I shall not go.

Titus. Hanno! Hanno! You will regret this opportunity and your mistake thereof a thousand times over. And that gold does not awaken your activity is a wonder to me, and that you are afraid of the river. "Kee Kee, Ree Kee, no hope for thee." This is a matter which, if you look it straight in the face, is nothing in it. Shrewdness, dash, sagacity, a fearless self-confidence—these things weigh heavy in the scale. It is "the man of blood and iron" that is destined to conquer and tower high above his situation of despair. Such a man is then happy, and he can say, I see there is hope for me. "Kee Kee, Ree Kee!"

Hanno.—Oh, I have no objection; your talk is smooth enough, but that does not change the phase of the Higher Ordinance nor stay the hand of destiny. Shrewdness, dash, sagacity, a fearless self confidence—all of this will vanish like mist when pierced by the heavenly laws. Above all, a quick made fortune is more difficult to obtain than the one acquired by degrees, and if either of these two are certain, the latter be the one that I should choose. But I have no choice; even hope has left me after all the chances of luck have gone. Prisoner of Poverty am I doomed to be until the day of liberation by death shall dawn.

Titus.—Is not that awful, to be destitute of hope, a factor so indispensable in life? But already have I made a physical examination of you, and that gives proof that you are adapted to accumulate great wealth, but success will come after you have advanced in life. This is owing to your natural development—slow, but sure, and in such cases without fail. This period has now been arrived at. 'Rise! and off to Crystal City we hail.

Are you ready?

Hanno.—No hope for me that I can see.

(*Titus staggers at Hanno's stubbornness.*)

Titus.—That which is most conspicuous to all living beings is the notable fact that life, however insignificant it may be, is subject to strife. There are you, and there all around you are infinite means to make use of. Now, what will you make of yourself?

To be poor, in itself, is not disgraceful, but it is a crippled life. It would not be so but for the rich and wealthy, who formulate society; vanity rules the fashionable world. Again: Poverty, in itself, is not necessarily a misery, but it causes the domestic machinery never to run smoothly. We are able swimmers, perhaps the best of the best, and to swim across that great river is not so serious, inasmuch as others have swum it over from shore to shore. So shall we, and bring back with us a fortune such that the hardships of life shall trouble us no more.

Are you ready?

Hanno.—"Kee Kee, Ree Kee, no hope for thee," is forbidden ground.

Titus.—Upon Motherearth nowhere is there forbidden ground. You are at home wherever you can shake the dust, and abound in sway wherever your voice

may sound. Deny this fact and you are skeptically unjust.

Hanno.—That is all right; and again it is not all right: In God's garden there is always a forbidden fruit. Remember Adam and Eve.

Titus.—I am not here for the purpose to discuss theological questions. I am here to help you out of your miserable plight and to tell you how to gain an earthly victory. Here I have exhausted the art of my persuasion. You must decide quickly. Follow me now or I break off and your chance will be gone forever!

Hanno.—In this whole proposed scheme, faith I have none; and to sell my life for gold, this I will never do. And I say: Go! go away! I am tired and disgusted with your demonstration.

Titus.—Are these the thanks that I am getting for all the trouble that I have taken to make you happy, as I am aiming to make myself? Are these the thanks? Wait! I have a secret which is the key to the whole scheme and is known to me only. This I shall keep to myself, as you have insulted me.

(Titus leaves; Hanno is left to himself.)

Hanno (soliloquizing).—A secret! Yes, a secret; and he will keep it to himself, as I have insulted him. If he is right, if it is true that he is ready to do as much for me as he would do for himself; and if it is true that he knows of a secret which is the key to the whole scheme, I acknowledge my mistake. If an access to Crystal City is connected with a secret of which no one knows but himself, I should not have broken off so suddenly. But why didn't he tell me so? Was it because he wanted to test the temper of my courage? Or was it mistrust? Or was it my stubbornness? Anyhow, I presume it was

wholly my blunder. Yes! and I would be only too willing to follow him through thick and thin if by this means the high sounding fortune could be reached in my behalf.

May he come back?

Titus! O Titus! where are you? Well, Titus is gone.

(*Lotus appears, servant of Titus.*)

Lotus—Karl Hanno, Prisoner of Poverty: How did you dare to insult one who stands nearest to your earthly good, and who was ready to drag you out of poverty? I dare to say that his demonstration touching upon your welfare was not with him a matter of talking to the wind, for he is a man who knows at what end to begin to secure rapid success. As to this I may say that Titus is in possession of a secret of which I and no other man know no more than that it is the key with which to open the door that is closed against access to Crystal City, filled with gold. There is a gulf between life and death, and now let us draw a line between the two half way, assuming that when man first enters this world he is on this line. As soon as man meets with gloom and misery he leaves the central line and goes away from life toward death, for death is associated with gloom and misery. And vice versa: As soon as man meets with happiness and bliss he leaves the central line and goes away from death toward life, for life is associated with happiness and bliss. A man not willing to sell his life for gold is perfectly justified; but a man willing to sell his life for gloom and misery when he can escape it is quite guilty of a crime. All of your earthly grievances would cease to be and make room for happier conditions to follow had you yielded to Titus, who holds the key of access to Crystal City, involved in his secret.

Hanno.—Where is Titus?

Lotus.—Is gone, though not far. May I call him?

Hanno.—Do so immediately!

(Lotus leaves Hanno to himself.)

Hanno (soliloquizing).—Well—what excuse will I make? What shall I say when he comes back? One thing is sure: Whatever I will say it must be precisely that which will bring me back to his favor. But what on earth will that be? Trying to smooth things over in this case will not do. But I will do this: I shall come out right straight and acknowledge flatly my mistake, and tell him—what? Tell him that I—

(Titus appears.)

Titus.—And what is the matter now?

Hanno.—What is the matter! Well, what is the matter?

Titus.—You have grossly insulted me.

Hanno.—Insulted you! Yes! What under the sun have I done? I shall be punished like the wicked and be devoured by destiny if this, my blunder, is permitted to remain. Curse me for the insult passed through my lips. But hear me while I struggle in despair to make things undone. Pray, what is there for me to do? Speak freely.

Titus.—Revolt against the Prince of Poverty and I will help you!

Hanno.—To revolt against the Prince of Poverty is to revolt against the Heavenly Powers.

Titus.—To revolt against the Heavenly Powers is to revolt against yourself. That which is hidden in the depths of the soul is yet manifest in a man's conduct toward himself. And you manifest too much piety at heart. Shrewdness, dash, sagacity, and a fearless self-confidence is essential with a

man of valor; and if this is not an inborn trait with him, it should be cultivated. The Heavenly Powers which you so much imagine are haunting you like the ghost on the sea; but they can be defeated. The Heavenly Powers can be defeated by a power greater than they are themselves. And this is the Power of Faith. You are the Prisoner of Poverty, and as the prisoner of the state is confined within the walls of rock, so are you confined within the walls of poverty, of which the prince thereof is the jailer. Good luck, better chances and with a brighter prospect before me, which of course I owe to myself, I am fortunate with some means so as to meet the necessities of life with greater ease and freedom; consequently I am no Prisoner of Poverty. But I do not stop here. For the troubles I bear I ask a full compensation of life, with all its sweetness and glory combined, whereas the City on the Hill filled with gold shall furnish the means by which to succeed in this most noble design of mine. You are the one that I shall leave behind me, and you shall be deprived of every aid and friendship because you have rejected my design. Yet, I am not gone. The fact that you are tied down with scorns of poverty, and that this same poverty is the prison wall, makes it another fact that you cannot escape while poor. And I am he who is standing on the outside of this wall planning your escape and talking to you through the cellar window; for it is but for the sake of my sympathy and the love that I cherish in my bosom for you.

Are you ready to follow?

Hanno.—To the ends of the earth, if necessary!

Titus.—This entitles you to the secret.

—FACTS AND STATEMENTS.—

—Crystal City, a deserted place spread out on the hill of crystal shape which curves into the river, one of the greatest in the world, and filled with gold, is known to be, and is, located on the right bank of said river, in a country yet unexplored. The inhabitants of this once flourishing place, who certainly stored up this gold, are supposed to have been partly destroyed, and the remainder, panic stricken, fled on account of an earthquake which must have taken place at a later date, as the indication to that effect plainly shows. Nine miles above Crystal City the Great River receives from the left a tributary of considerable size, and the section enclosed by these two rivers is called "Lonely Spot." Lonely Spot is mountainous, filled with caves and chasms, and, below, the Great River cannot be approached on account of the swamp land which follows its bank down to the ocean. Upwards of twenty-two miles above Crystal City the Great River receives from the right another tributary, of nine hundred feet across its channel. Five miles below this point the Great River admits a perpendicular fall, also one of the greatest in the world; and immediately above this point, and upwards for about thirty miles, the river is subject to rapids with a velocity of eighteen miles an hour. Owing to its great width of 11,000 feet, the river here constitutes a huge mass of whirlpools, and cannot be crossed by any means without facing peril and fate. Above the rapids the river is smooth, gentle in its flow, and can be crossed at leisure. But before reaching this point one must scale a mountain of 19,000 feet, almost perpendicular in its elevation. In the face of these odds anyone attempting to cross this river to reach Crystal City has resolved upon a most desperate scheme, in

any case a dangerous proceeding, and if successful he has achieved a victory little short of a miracle. But we shall be spared this danger.

Hanno.—And do you blame me, in the face of all this, as I was equally aware of all these facts? And why didn't you tell me!

Titus.—Ah! I had a purpose in view: To test your courage, your bravery, your temper and disposition; and because you have not trusted me in my earnest remonstrance I demand now a pledge of you, to the effect that you share with me every lot of fortune, or misfortune, or whatever the unknown future has in store for us, and that we do not part in our combined efforts until the fairest conditions of life and happiness are established. And I shall do likewise, and upon this pledge I shall disclose to you the profound secret upon which is depending all of our earthly hope.

Hanno.—"I do hereby solemnly promise to share with you (Titus) every lot of fortune, or misfortune, or whatever the unknown future has in store for us, and swear not to part in our combined efforts until the fairest conditions of life and happiness are established.

"In honor of this day."

KARL HANNO.

Titus.—"I do hereby solemnly promise to share with you (Karl Hanno) every lot of fortune, or misfortune, or whatever the unknown future has in store for us, and swear not to part in our combined efforts until the fairest conditions of life and happiness are established.

"In honor of this day." TITUS.

For it is but for the sake of my sympathy
And the love that I cherish in my bosom for you.

—THE SECRET.—

—Once I had lost my way and was rambling about from place to place until I found myself in Lonely Spot, in front of a cave near the riverside and apparently of an innocent nature. Night and darkness set in and the tempest blew from all directions, while the heavens announced torrents of rain shortly to follow. There was no place for refuge in this solitary spot except this cave. I went in, lighted a torch and determined, if agreeable, to abide there through the night. By this time the rain had commenced pouring down in streams, accompanied by a severe storm raging horribly over the landscape. As I ventured more to the interior, all at once I saw an object standing in the mouth of the cave. It was a panther. Perhaps it was the torchlight that frightened him, as he seemed to be very cautious in his manners. Another animal, a tiger, came in on a full rush, followed by a leopard; all sought protection from the raging storm without. "My doom is sealed," I whispered to myself. But, as it happened, these cruel animals fell out with each other and engaged in a deadly combat. "This is my chance to escape," I again whispered to myself; whereupon I retreated farther back into the cave. Whether the weaker party gave way and fled, or whether they had compromised, at any rate the fighting had suddenly ceased, and to my dismay I beheld any number of these wild brutes starting after me, and they were soon close upon my heels. When my case became almost hopeless I discovered the cave running into a narrow neck and finally into a loop-hole, which was the passage into another cave, just large enough for me to glide through, which I did in all haste. This shut off the beasts. This cave presented a most wonderful spectacle, and soon my fears

gave way to its rare curiosities, whereupon I proceeded by degrees farther and farther. How long I remained in this cave I do not know, but I came out of it on a bright noonday, and, to my greatest surprise, on the other side of that great river, and I stood on its right bank, which is on the same bank as Crystal City. As the outlet of the secret cave is immediately above the point where the tributary from the right flows into the Great River, I had another river, though a much smaller one, yet to cross; but being without means and alone, it was useless for me to proceed any farther, and I returned again through the Secret Cave. And this cave thus far is known to me only. The tributary of 900 feet width from the right we can swim across at leisure, and after that the way down to Crystal City of twenty-two miles is clear. Thus we can reach Crystal City in safety and accomplish that which would be almost impossible on any other scale.

Hanno.—Now I can say, "I see there is hope for me." I have always had a burning conviction in my heart that I shall see at least one moment in life in which I shall see all of my wishes answered. But during my former struggles, by which I have come to naught, I held this to be an imagination, but here is developing something that seems to confirm the truth of that. And who knows but perhaps sooner or later we shall be seated in the circle of earthly bliss?

Titus.—Ah! you have changed wonderfully; but keep cool. We shall master our situation and overcome all difficulties by degrees, and if anything good is in our near future we shall attempt heaven and earth to accomplish our purpose. And as to this let us make our plan.

—PLAN.—

—A fortnight journey covers the distance by which to reach the nearest point bordered by the Great River, on its left bank, twenty-two miles above Crystal City, in Lonely Spot. Here we shall enter the Secret Cave, which I have here on my map (produces a map), and proceed through under the Great River to the opposite side. The tributary from the right, which is 900 feet in width, and a shallow sandbar nearly half way across, making the actual channel but 500 feet, we shall swim across. The remainder of the distance is a straight march of twenty-two miles to Crystal City. On our way home we shall do as we did before, except that all the gold that we can possibly carry with us we shall moor it across on the bottom of the smaller river.

Hanno.—But why go to such trouble as that? While there is plenty of grown timber along the banks of the rivers, why not construct a raft and ferry over, gold and all?

Titus.—For this reason: All the grown timber in that section of the land is of hard wood and sinks to the bottom like iron. Now, we will do this: The river is 900 feet in width, and a shallow sandbar of 400 feet, making the actual channel 500 feet. We will take a rope, adapted to suit the purpose, 1,000 feet long, tie both ends together, stretch it double across the river, one on each end of the rope, so as to have the river between us, fasten a quantity of gold to the rope and keep spinning it across the river until all is moored across. The scheme is genuine.

Hanno.—The scheme is genuine. Surely you need a partner!

Titus.—Yes! but look here: You will share half in the gain. Many, many, would hail an opportunity like this, but it is you whom I chose for partner and for possession of half of all that we shall gain.

For it is but for the sake of my sympathy
And the love that I cherish in my bosom for you.

Hanno.—Most highly do I appreciate this undeserved kindness. I will follow, and, as I have said, if necessary, to the ends of the earth.

Titus.—One thing cannot fail: Devotion and love are commanding in heaven and on earth and causing the powers of hell to tremble.

Hanno.—I cannot overcome my feeling of what destiny has in store for us in this our enterprise. I feel so strange; I feel so isolated from all protection and safety; so ominous and doomed in the face of the immediate future. Yes! I feel the weight of destiny bearing down upon my soul. It must mean something. Thinking to enter upon an enterprise connected with thousands of dangers and difficulties, it looks as though we are defying evil and fate with the Heavenly Powers set against us, I try hard to overcome these attacks, but since I have failed in everything in the past that I have undertaken to accomplish, I have since become a firm believer in predestination, holding that my destiny was fixed at the day of my birth, and that after this period it can never be changed by any manner of act on my part. What can I do for my escape when I am doomed? I feel so strange!

Titus.—It is vile and of no good consequence, neither is it to any advantage, to give way to such speculations. The day will prove that when your des-

tiny, or—my destiny, or anyone's destiny, was fixed it was fixed at the day of birth wholly in accordance with our conduct in life. The human being is not like a machine, which, when set in motion, does its work already determined by its mechanism. Your destiny was fixed to suit the purpose that you are aiming to reach by your free act and will, good or bad. Destiny is depending upon one's conduct, and this conduct, if in harmony with moral and natural laws, will purify the soul, and the soul will then remain in its natural state and be happy. Again: If the conduct of man, enacted by his free act and will, is not in harmony with moral and natural laws, he must, for a violation of these laws, suffer evil consequences, a fate that he cannot escape. He is doomed. In this part of the field, man is the maker of his own destiny. In the other part of the field, destiny is depending upon one's fitness. That which he brings with him into the world we say, "favored by nature." It questions his ability, his will-power, his swiftness of mind and, above all, his faith. Destiny, when depending upon these things, is beyond control when man is in want of these attributes. But the Maker of all Things will take care of His own, and man, whatever he may choose to do, is safe in the hands of Destiny if his conduct is not in opposition with moral and natural laws.

Hanno.—Very well. And what of a show have I when complying with all that is demanded?

Titus.—Think not that you are serving a——. All deeds will be paid out, good or bad, and the man complying with all demands made upon him cannot fail in his purpose;

Hanno.—Then the Great Maker owes me the blessing of life now for thirty-eight years. Will he pay?

Titus.—Will he pay? Yes! he will pay. Rise! and off to Crystal City we hail.

Hanno.—I am ready in any emergency to follow, and, as I have said, to the ends of the earth, if necessary.

Titus.—Words cannot express the beauty there is in harmony, nor the power manifest in unity. With such mental equipments we can safely face the issue. All things must come to a finish to accomplish their design. And the master must be greater than the work that he is to accomplish.

Hanno.—But remember: This is subject to the Heavenly Powers.

Titus.—No! not subject to the Heavenly Powers, but subject to moral and natural laws. Remember that!

Hanno.—Well, we shall see. We will adopt your theory. We will make our plan exactly harmonizing with moral and natural laws to prevent fatal consequences and to secure success. But this means a great deal. We must be far-sighted to render accidents perfectly harmless should they occur; we must weigh every fact and give it the widest consideration. If in this way we can manage the Heavenly Powers and dictate the terms of our success, your theory is right. But if destiny prevails and dictates the terms of our success in any measure, your theory is wrong and it must fall in the end.

Titus.—So be it. We shall see: Shrewdness, dash, sagacity, a fearless self-confidence are traits of the man of valor and he is destined to conquer. O, valor! valor! this beautiful valor! I am so positive and so full of delight that when I cast a view into the far distance now before us, I fear nothing. I have

not the slightest presentiment of anything fatal, but a conviction of a return safe and well. Behold the Power of Faith, the all omnipotent.

Hanno.—Where did you get this power?

Titus.—Can't tell you, but I got it. But let us come to a close and gather our equipments.

(He produces them in the regular order.)

—Here is a map which will guide us to the Secret Cave passing through under the Great River; here is a torch to furnish us light through the Secret Cave with a burning capacity of ninety-five hours, seven times the length of time to pass through; here are two deadly weapons, one spear for each, with which to slay the savage beasts of prey should they attack us; here is a suitable rope of a thousand feet long to reach double across the actual channel of the smaller river of five hundred feet from the sandbar; here is a casket with which to carry the gold of seven hundred pounds between us; provisions, supplies and other necessities.

Hanno.—One thing: The smaller river whose actual channel is but five hundred feet across at low water mark owing to the sandbar extending nearly half way across, may it not occur that a heavy rain-fall will swell the waters and fill the whole riverbed, making the actual channel nine hundred feet across instead of five hundred?

Titus.—Possibly, yes!

Hanno.—Then let us make provisions to meet the emergency. Take a rope of eighteen hundred feet long to reach double across the river at high water mark. This will make us master of the situation.

Titus.—Ah! Now you are shaping your destiny with skill and foresight. To be prepared in the event of an emergency. That talks. And here is an addi-

tional rope (produces it) making it eighteen hundred feet long to reach double across the smaller river in case of high water mark. All things must come to a finish to accomplish their design.

(*Concert.*)

—Hip! Hip! Hip! off we go to Crystal City.

(*Titus and Karl Hanno start for Crystal City.*)

SECTION II.

[SCENE—*Crystal City resembles a place of 20,000 inhabitants, located on the right bank, on a round hill covered with glittering rocks, curving into the great river of 11,000 feet in width. The city is deserted and its spectacle gives evidence of an earthquake in a country yet new and unexplored by white men. A park is immediately joining the city with a platform in the center, apparently suspended thirteen feet above the ground and upon which the Heavenly Powers assemble. The Heavenly Powers have wings and are dressed in white garments, except the Power of Evil and the Power of Fate are in light-red and in dark red, respectively.*]

SET COUNCIL OF THE HEAVENLY POWERS.

(They are: The Power of Good, the Power of Evil, the Power of Fate, the Power of Accidents, and the Power of Dispensation. To these are joined the Heavenly Functionaries, viz: The Prince of Poverty, the Prince of Vanity, the Prince of Wisdom, and the Prince of Fools. This council is presided over by Destiny, fixed by the Maker of all Things.)

Destiny.—The council is called to proceedings!

Prince of Poverty.—In presence of this solemn assembly and before Most Holy Act Divine of Destiny, I bring in complaints against a man named Karl Hanno, whom thou Most Holy Act Divine of Destiny hast left in my charge and who has now revolted against me. He was moved by the Power of Temptation, and counseled by human wit through the instrumentality of a man named Titus, to escape out of my jurisdiction and the plan is promising success. As to this, they are now under way to Crystal City, a deserted place, and full of gold. Once there, they will freely take therefrom as much as they can carry, and, their being in possession of a fortune of gold, means the end of my power over such men.
—Shall this man have success? and shall he be free?

Destiny.—On the day of his birth, the man named Karl Hanno was destined to remain poor owing to the fact that he had brought with him into the world a weak faith, inherited from his father and a piety within his heart without shrewdness, dash, sagacity or fearless self confidence, all of this, which is commanding in the world to secure success and accumulate wealth, he is in want of. It was known that at the age of thirty-eight years he would attempt to go to Crystal City a deserted place, and full of gold, for the sole purpose of seizing a fortune therefrom. It was foreseen that Karl Hanno, in control of great wealth, would be incompatible with a certain divine purpose; but for the sake of a man named Titus, who cherishes sympathy and love in his bosom for him at this time, he, (Karl Hanno) was destined to carry off a small success in this enterprise and to be relieved thereby from the bonds of poverty for a period of two years. Next!

Power of Evil.—In presence of this solemn assembly and before Most Holy Act Divine of Destiny: The men named, Titus and Karl Hanno, have in conjunction started out to Crystal City, a deserted place, and full of gold, for the sole purpose of seizing a fortune therefrom. After a fortnight's journey they have now arrived, and entered the cave passing through under the Great River and are thereby defying my evil functions. I move that these men be slain by the savage beasts of prey who are now closing in on them in the cave.

—Shall the men be spared?

Destiny.—On the day of the birth of Titus and Karl Hanno, respectively, it was known that in this enterprise they would seek protection under moral and natural laws: Moral; that it is not wrong for man to slay

his assailant, natural; that the superior prevails, and that as to this they would provide themselves with deadly weapons with which to slay the savage beasts of prey. Titus and Karl Hanno were therefore destined to be victorious in the combat with the hostile beasts of prey now closing in on them in the cave. —The motion cannot be carried. Next!

Power of Fate.—In presence of this solemn assembly and before Most Holy Act Divine of Destiny. The men named, Titus and Karl Hanno, who, in conjunction are still under way to Crystal City, have at this moment plunged themselves into the river to swim across and have thereby invaded my jurisdiction. I move that the floods of the river swallow them and drown their bodies before reaching the shore. —Shall these men live?

Destiny.—On the day of the birth of the men named, Titus and Karl Hanno, respectively, it was known that by this time they would be able swimmers and the act to swim across the river in this case was found to be in harmony with the laws of nature and these men were therefore destined to reach the shore in safety.

—The motion cannot be carried. Next!

Power of Good.—In presence of this solemn assembly and before Most Holy Act Divine of Destiny: The men named, Titus and Karl Hanno, have now arrived here in Crystal City, a deserted place, and filled with gold. They are tempted in such measure that they will take such heavy load of gold that it will prove dangerous to their lives under conditions covered by natural laws.

—I move that these men be given in my charge. Shall they perish?

Destiny.—On the day of the birth of the men named,

Titus and Karl Hanno, respectively, it was known that, while being in Crystal City, a deserted place, and full of gold, they would be tempted in such measure that they would take such a heavy load of gold that it would prove dangerous to their lives under conditions governed by natural laws. But it was also found that the men would be perfectly innocent in their act, inasmuch as they would be unaware of the danger happening from an unforeseen cause, and therefore in itself not offensive. The men named, Titus and Karl Hanno, were therefore destined to be given in charge of the Power of Good from now on until after the fatal moment.

—The motion is carried: For the Maker of All Things is a lover of life. The council is dissolved!

(A new council is formed, whose members are: The Prince of Poverty, the Prince of Vanity, the Prince of Wisdom and the Prince of Fools. This new Council is presided over by the Power of Good under the provision of Destiny.)

Power of Good.—The council is called to proceedings!

Prince of Fools.—Most Holy Divine Good!

—As regards the fatal moment awaiting the men, Titus and Karl Hanno, I move: Let Wisdom explain the nature and character respecting the danger involved by their fatal act.

Power of Good.—Let Wisdom explain!

Prince of Wisdom.—The men named, Titus and Karl Hanno respectively, engaged in an act resulting in a fatal consequence by taking such heavy load of gold that it will prove fatal to their lives under conditions governed by natural laws, and the nature and character respecting this danger is precisely this:

—In the cave, passing through under the Great River, and well nigh the entrance on the left

bank of the river, which is nearest to their home, there is an abyss, a bottomless pit. This abyss is overbridged by a thin layer of slate-rock completely covering the hole of the abyss, of which, as a consequence, nothing can be seen by the human eye. This thin layer of slate-rock over-bridging the abyss has a strength of bearing of not over 1,100 pounds, and a weight exceeding this will break through. Titus and Karl Hanno will take all the gold that they can possibly carry. They will take 700 pounds, carried between them. Their own weight is not less than 500 pounds, making a total weight of 1,200 pounds. They must pass over this thin layer of slate-rock over the abyss whose strength of bearing is not over 1,100 pounds; consequently Titus and Karl Hanno, together with the gold that they carry, a weight of 1,200 pounds, will break through as soon as they pass upon it, and they will be swallowed by the earth. Would these men take a modest weight, say 500 pounds, they would pass safely over the abyss, but human nature is not such in this case.

Power of Good.—This council is requested to suggest means and devices by which to save these men at the fatal moment.

Prince of Fools.—Most Holy Divine Good!

—To rescue these men, Titus and Karl Hanno, at the fatal moment, I move that they shall be made fools to the effect causing them to believe that it is better to be content with little than to be dissatisfied with too much. They will then take but half as much and will safely pass over the abyss.

Power of Good.—This is contrary to the institution established for mankind. The earth was given

to man and its fullness thereof. So is man granted to exercise his power and will at freedom and seize upon anything to which he is lawfully entitled. Further: Man is the likeness of his Maker, who is all intelligent and all wise, and He will not consent that men be made fools.

—The motion cannot be carried. Next!

Prince of Poverty.—Most Holy Divine Good!

—The men, Titus and Karl Hanno, are at this moment at a loss for a device how to carry best the load of gold that is to be taken by them in Crystal City. I move: Let the power of temptation be permitted to prevail over them to the extent that they take the 700 pounds, as is their design, and let the Prince of Wisdom counsel them to take a long pole to suit their purpose, fasten the casket filled with gold to the middle of the pole, and let them carry this on their shoulders so that the ends of the pole will project several feet over their respective shoulders. Passing above the abyss, the weak slate rock will break under its weight; the long pole will lodge upon the edge of the rocks caused by the breach as the men drop, and from the sudden check, the casket filled with gold will be torn off of the pole and be lost in the abyss; but the men will grasp the pole suspending over the abyss and so save themselves.

Power of Good —In this scheme all the gold will be lost in the abyss. This is in opposition to their destiny as they are destined to carry off a small success in this enterprise. Further: The idea of the long pole tendering the rescue of these men is very good, but the scheme, logically, is not correct: They will take 700 pounds of gold between them. This is their plan. It is as much as they can possible carry. Adapting to their use a long pole, these men will,

as a logical consequence, take one of the least possible weight, whose strength of bearing will but little exceed the 700 pounds of gold, say 750. 700 pounds falling five feet, that is, from the shoulders down to the ground, will increase in velocity until the 700 pounds become 1000 pounds. Consequently, when each end of the pole strikes the edges of the breach the pole, with its heavy weight, will break outright and the men and all will drop down into the abyss.

—The motion cannot be carried. Next!

Prince of Vanity.—Most Holy Divine Good: Let Wisdom make a suggestion.

Power of Good.—Let Wisdom prepare a plan.

Prince of Wisdom.—Most Holy Divine Good.

—In the centre of Crystal City there is a palace ornamented with gold and diamonds, a spectacle of ancient splendor. Aside from this overwhelming magnificance and in addition to its historical value, there are in front of this palace many statues. And as many as there are, there is one overshadowing all others in size. He holds forth a spear fourteen feet in length, with a wooden shaft ornamented with rings around it of solid gold, weighing twenty-five pounds. (\$8000.) The shaft of this spear has a strength of bearing of 2000 pounds and can be credited to stand the crisis. Because of the gold that it contains; on account of the usefulness as a weapon, and as a practical device with which to carry the gold, the men, when seeing this spear, will desire to have it. They will fasten the casket filled with gold to the middle of the spear, carried between them on their shoulders. Passing upon the abyss, they will drop through the breach with their hands already clasped to the spear, which in the next moment will sudden-

ly lodge across over the breach. The casket filled with gold wilt be torn loose and will drop down the abyss while the men are swinging. In the next moment they will climb on board the solid rock: Saved are the men; saved is the spear, and secured is the small success which by Destiny is allowed them, and this they will find in the rings of solid gold around the spear, twenty-five pounds (\$8000, \$4000 for each.) All that remaineth now is to guide these men in front of the palace so that they may see the spear. To do this is the work of Vanity.

Prince of Vanity.—Most Holy Divine Good!

—To dispense means by which to save these men, Titus and Karl Hanno, at the fatal moment, by means of using the spear held by a statue in front of the palace in the center of Crystal City, which is credited to stand the crisis; to guide, or to lead, these men in front of the palace so that they may see the spear, I move: That Titus and Karl Hanno be given in my charge. Also to be empowered to change my form and to approach them in an ordinary human conversation.

Power of Good.—The plan devised and suggested by this council to dispense means and ways by which to save the men, Titus and Karl Hanno, at the fatal moment in this their enterprise, is in harmony with the laws of nature; and to the human being, when executed, it will appear as a natural proceeding. The motion is carried. The men named Titus and Karl Hanno are given in charge to the Prince of Vanity, to be guided, or led, in front of the palace so that they may see the spear, from now on up to the moment when this shall have been accomplished.

—Prince of Vanity is also empowered to change

his form and to approach these men in an ordinary human conversation.

(The Prince of Vanity immediately leaves the Council of the Heavenly Functionaries and meets Titus and Karl Hanno in the form of the human being, and he is hailed by them simply as a stranger.)

Prince of Vanity.—

I do enjoy all that is in harmony with true life,
And here, while we are taking these earthly
treasures in view,

To which you have succeeded with toil and strife,
Do you think for a moment that this was not
all made for you?

And here, right here on this very spot where we
stand,

Is a fortune to pick up without going any
farther;

And because there is no owner of it in all this
land,

Makes it a free gift to anyone coming hither.

Hanno.--

Sorely it is to be regretted that in this case

We cannot own it all, only what we can carry.

Regards the difficulties to reach this place,

As there is on the river neither a bridge nor a
ferry.

Prince of Vanity.—

And even at this rate you are far in advance

Of the thousands who are living in poverty,

And of the thousands who will never see the
chance

To rise in wealth as you do with such rapidity.

Titus.--

Yes! here we are in the city on the hill,

And filled with gold, a fact, and is no story.

This gold is free, and we are left at will

To take therefrom as much as we can carry.

Prince of Vanity.--

And you will see a greater glory than this

By advancing more to the heart of the interior;

It seems as we should be inspired with bliss
 To which this here is merely something yet
 inferior.

Titus and Karl Hanno.—Then, let us go! (*They go,
 Prince of Vanity takes the lead.*)

Prince of Vanity.—

And here we come to a magnificent temple,
 And its hardware is not like in the times of old,
 Such as of steel and iron, for example: .

The hardware in here is all of solid gold.

—But let us see some more of it. (*Prince of
 Vanity goes on; Titus and Karl Hanno follow.*)

—And here is a large structure, and to us
 It matters but little what it was for; but behold!
 Those powerful arches reaching across:

They are all out of solid gold.

—But let us go farther. (*They all go, Prince of
 Vanity is in the lead.*)

—And here we come to a palace— how grand!

Those statues representing heroes in the days
 of old,

And one there holding a long spear in his hand
 With rings around it; behold! they are all of
 solid gold.

—But my time is limited and I must leave you.
 Excuse me.

(*Prince of Vanity parts from Titus and Karl Hanno
 and repairs back to the council of the heavenly function-
 aries. His mission is ended. Titus and Karl Hanno
 are again in charge of the Power of Good.*)

Titus.—Strange that this man broke off so suddenly. I
 was wondering where he came from, and all that in-
 terests me is to know whether he discovered, and
 came through the Secret Cave under the Great River.
 Then again I think he may not belong at all to the
 other side of the Great River where we live. Well,
 be this as it is, we shall look out for ourselves. We
 have played the first act of our dramatic enterprise

so well and are now ready for the next. As to myself, I am overwhelmed by the success already accomplished: To think that all this is real; to think that we are in Crystal City, a deserted place, and full of gold. Gold! Gold! Gold! and gold all around us. What do you think about it?

Hanno.—To me this seems more like a dream than a reality because of our rapid success, as I thought it to be impossible to get here. What a change in the situation, and what a bright prospect of the future is developing right here. And yet I could even linger. To follow you was the work of a tender persuasion entertained by sympathy and manly love. Oh! May heaven give me an opportunity to repay you for your most noble deed in my behalf.

--Only this: Will we succeed?

Titus.—Succeed? To return home safe and well? To overcome all odds, and to be in possession of so great a fortune? Why not, what will hinder us? Behold the Power of Faith!

Hanno.—O, had I but the Power of Faith to be relieved from the fear of the Heavenly Powers! I feel so strange.

Titus.—If the Heavenly Powers have anything to do with our business I believe that they are for us rather than against us. But the greatest hero is he who conquers himself. And I say: Swing your colors! we are on the march of victory. Round up your heels! so your feet won't be so clumsy. Defy your lingering thoughts! have you a love for victory. —There is something to be done here besides taking a long breath and throwing out sighs to the stars. Ah! The Almighty at this moment, I am sure, is watching us closely and is ready to manifest His divine pleasure to see two more heroes turn out this day. (*They are still in front of the palace.*)

Hanno.—There they are! (*he points out.*) Do you not see the statues there representing heroes of antiquity and one there especially holding a long heavy spear in his hand with rings around it of solid gold?

Titus.—Yes! I see. He looks like a hero of antiquity and he can stay there, but the spear will go with us.

Hanno.—The idea prevailed over me as soon as I saw this confounded art of antiquity: The gold that it contains, the usefulness as a weapon, and as a practical device with which to carry the gold; all of this is evidently a fortunate chance. Thus: We will take the spear.

Concert.

Take the spear and hug all the gold
That can possibly be into the casket rolled.

—Off we go with our great fortune. (*They leave Crystal City.*)

SECTION III.

DISPENSATORY ASSEMBLY OF THE HEAVENLY POWERS.

[They are: The Power of Accidents, the Power of Evil, the Power of Fate and the Power of Rescue. Functionaries: Prince of Vanity, Prince of Poverty and the Prince of Prudence.]

This assembly is controlled by the Power of Good under provisions of Destiny, as fixed by the Maker of All Things. This assembly takes up a position right over the abyss in the cave where Titus and Karl Hanno must pass and break through and is so near to the entrance, which is nearest to their home, that it is approached by daylight. The Heavenly Powers all have wings and are wrapped in long robes loosely fitted; all are in white except the Power of Evil and the Power of Fate, who are in red.]

Power of Good (to the assembly):—As a heavenly power in my functional charges, I have been commissioned and appointed by Destiny, fixed by the Maker of All Things, to save two human lives from fate and destruction at a moment now close at hand. The men in question, Titus and Karl Hanno, in consequence of strife for existence, life and welfare, have committed themselves to an act that will culminate in fate and destruction under conditions governed by natural laws. They have been tried by a heavenly council and found “not guilty.” Even so: The Power of Fate and Destruction will continue its fatal tendency all the same, subject, however, to the laws of nature which in all cases must take their regular course but which again must be rendered perfectly harmless in this case. As to this, I charge all the powers connected with this affair, to be under bond of the highest executive as regards their functional charges according to the heavenly laws.

Powers. —All hail the Power of the Highest Executive!

Messenger, (Celestial enters).—Most Holy Divine Good: The men Titus and Karl Hanno, with a heavy load of gold, are at this moment on their way home, and have left Crystal City a short distance behind them. (*Exit.*)

Messenger (Enters):—Most Holy Divine Good: The men, Titus and Karl Hanno, with a heavy load of gold have at this moment arrived at the tributary from the right received by the Great River. Since it is nearly sundown they have decided not to cross until morning. (*Exit.*)

Power of Accidents.—Most Holy Divine Good: As a heavenly power in my functional charges to voluntarily use my power, subject, however, to the laws of nature, I shall in the next moment cause an accident so as to interfere with the success of Titus and Karl Hanno. During a heavy rainfall to-night I shall cause a breach in the dam of a reservoir and so swell the river, which these men are aiming to cross in the morning to moor their load of gold across to a high watermark. Although they have provided themselves with a rope for this emergency so as to render this accident harmless, yet I shall make it exceedingly difficult for them to succeed. This I shall do in consequence of their having committed a divine offence by assuming to have outwitted the Heavenly Powers. If successful, they would call it "smart." They are not then willing to admit that all good, and all blessing cometh from Heaven. They shall find it exceedingly difficult. (*Exit.*)

Power of Good.—The human being is blind to the blessings granted him by his Creator. He attributes all things to his merit except the evil for which again he blames all things except himself. Man be cursed.

Messenger (Enters):—The river has risen to a high watermark. Titus and Karl Hanno moor their load of gold across on the bottom of the river. (*Exit.*)

Power of Accidents (Enters):—I shall cause another accident: There are some rocks on the bottom of the river. Some pieces of gold shall be caught fast and be lost. Naturally shall it be so. (*Exit.*)

Prince of Poverty.—That will cut an important link in the chain of their success.

Messenger (Enters).—Titus and Karl Hanno moor gold across on the bottom of the river and half of it is lost. (*Exit.*)

Power of Fate.—Now they will pass safely over the abyss, will they?

Prince of Vanity.—Not so. They will hastily go back to Crystal City and make up the loss, while they have the chance.

Prince of Prudence.—I shall go and cause these men to select a place farther to the right where the bottom of the river assumes a sandy smoothness. (*Exit.*)

Messenger (Enters.)—Titus and Karl Hanno have made up the loss of gold and resume moving it across on the bottom of the river. (*Exit.*)

Prince of Prudence.—Solemn assembly!

—It is a singular occurrence that a great body of water in a tropical zone can suddenly change from hot to ice-cold, yet such occurrence has actually been effected by the laws of nature in less than one hour's time. The river where Titus and Karl Hanno moor their gold across has suddenly changed from hot to ice-cold. Naturally so; all is natural!

Messenger (Enters).—Karl Hanno has plunged into the river to swim across. (*Exit.*)

Power of Fate.—Karl Hanno has violated the laws of nature: The temperature of the atmosphere as well

as that of the water of the river has suddenly changed from hot to ice-cold owing to a heavy hailstorm filling the river with ice. Karl Hanno with his warm body plunging into the ice-cold water has violated the laws of nature and I shall go now to execute them. (*Exit.*)

Messenger (Enters).—Karl Hanno is on the point of drowning. Owing to the ice-cold water in the river he gave way to spasms. The same has befallen Titus who came to his rescue from the opposite shore, which he had reached when the water was warm before the hailstorm. (*Exit.*)

Power of Good.—Karl Hanno and Titus are destined to overcome all fatal odds in this their enterprise. They were given in my charge, and they shall live.

Messenger (Enters).—Karl Hanno's body has been drifted back to the land and the rolling waves of the river have thrown him high upon the bank; the same is true of Titus. Both are reviving. (*Exit.*)

Power of Good.—Karl Hanno, in consequence of his piety and the love that he entertains for his Maker, shall be heard in his need as now he is sending supplications to his Maker to dispense means by which to cross the river in safety. Of course this must assume a natural proceeding.

Power of Accidents (Enters).—I shall go on my commission and while the flood is still high, I shall cause some stranded drift-wood to get loose and it will float down the river; a strong gale will throw it next to the shore where Karl Hanno is anxiously waiting for it. He will seize it and fasten together several logs. The rope with which they moored the gold across, is still stretched across the river. He will fasten the rope to this little raft and Titus will pull him across without accidents. (*Exit.*)

Power of Good.—This is approved of; it is all natural, perfectly natural.

Messenger (Enters).—Karl Hanno, having reached the left bank of the river in safety, is rejoining Titus. They resume their march homeward, carrying 700 pounds of gold in a casket fastened to a long spear, with rings around of solid gold and carried between them on their shoulders. (*Exit*)

(INCIDENTAL COUNCIL.)

Power of Rescue.—Most Holy Divine Good:

—The assembly is aware that Titus and Karl Hanno with their heavy load of gold will soon pass upon the thin slate rock over the abyss and break through, under conditions governed by natural laws. They are destined to be saved from fate and destruction during the crisis. The plan of rescue has been worked out and passed by several councils. Complete as is the plan with all means included toward that purpose, there is still one point in the scheme which must be given special attention. It is this: Titus and Karl Hanno carry the casket filled with gold fastened to the middle part of the spear. For necessity's sake they have one hand fixed to the spear in order to hold it steadily on their shoulders, but at the very instant of dropping, they will be of a careless mind, thinking of nothing their hold of the spear will not be effective. They must have a firm, and solid hold of the spear as they drop.

—I move that Titus and Karl Hanno be given in my charge during one second of time at point of dropping so that their hands be firmly fixed to the spear.

Power of Good.—The Power of Rescue is requested to explain the method that is to be adopted in the act.

Power of Rescue.—Most Holy Divine Good:

—I shall cause a cramp to set in on their hands and their hold to the spear will be firm and solid. They will also be able to explain how wonderfully they were saved.

Power of Good.—This is connected with evil. Veto!

Power of Rescue.—I shall otherwise adopt a supernatural method, but such method cannot be explained by natural laws, and ere I can proceed to do anything I must be charged by the Omnipotent Power of Faith.

Power of Good (produces the book of record):—I shall look up the Record of Destiny!

—Yes! Here it is: "The man named Titus. At the day of his birth it was known that at the age of forty-six years he would by his free act and will undertake a trip to a place named "Crystal City." The city being deserted and full of gold, Titus, in conjunction with a man named Karl Hanno would seize a burden of gold thereof and on their way home, in a cave, passing under a great river, they would, on a thin layer of slate-rock over an abyss, break through under conditions governed by natural laws. Titus, at the day of his birth it was found, had brought with him into the world a powerful faith, joined to shrewdness, dash, sagacity and fearless self-confidence so favored by nature. According to shrewdness, dash, sagacity, and fearless self-confidence which is commanding success, he should have been destined to carry off an immense fortune in this enterprise, but the fact that he would have Karl Hanno to share half in the gain, and he (Karl Hanno) was destined to remain poor in view of a certain divine purpose, the gold was

therefore doomed to be lost in the abyss. On the other hand: because Titus had a powerful faith and the fact being unaware of the danger coming from an unforeseen cause, both Titus and Karl Hanno were therefore destined to be rescued in the crisis when breaking through the slate-rock over the abyss, and for one second of time at the very instant of dropping, these men should be given in charge of the Power of Rescue charged by the Power of Faith to fix their hands firmly to the spear." (*Puts the book away*).

—The motion is carried: The Power of Rescue shall be charged by the Power of Faith for one second of time to fix the hands of Titus and Karl Hanno firmly to the spear at instant of dropping.

Messenger (*Enters*).—Titus and Karl Hanno now in sight! (*Exit*).

Power of Good.—All Heavenly Powers, whether good or evil, except the Power of Rescue, are charged to vanish from this field!

(All the powers disappear, except the Power of Good and the Power of Rescue. Titus and Karl Hanno coming on with their burden, a casket containing 700 pounds of gold, fastened to the middle part of a long spear and carried between them on their shoulders. The Power of Rescue takes up a position over the abyss and is ready to take charge of them at the instant when they break through and drop).

Titus—Hurrah! Hurrah! Hurrah! I can see daylight. We are approaching the mouth of the cave.

Hanno.—Well I shall never forget this trip, we have had a hard time of it: Confound it. What difference does that make? 700 pounds of gold in the casket; 25 pounds more on the spear, a total

of 11600 ounces; \$232,000 between us, \$116,000 for each. And if we come out of this cave all right, as you have always said we would, I confess that you have something that I have not.

Titus.—Come out of this cave all right, safe and well! Why not? Behold the Power of Faith! (*Down they drop! They firmly hold to the spear and are suspended in the mouth of the abyss.*)

Hanno.—Great God! under us is a pit of an endless depth.

Titus.—Make a swing and get aboard of the rock while I hold the spear. Be careful!

Hanno.—(*Makes a swing.*) I am out! Now you get out! while I hold the spear. Be careful!

Titus.—(*He makes a swing.*) I am out, too!

Hanno.—I firmly seized the spear as we dropped, I cannot explain it—

Titus.—So did I! It all came so quick, I had no time to think but I attribute that to the Power of Faith.

Hanno.—Our spear saved itself and saved us, but the casket filled with gold is lost down in the abyss. But we have still twenty-five pounds of gold left in the rings around the spear. This is what we were destined to have and no more, the remainder was doomed to be lost in the abyss. Do what you will, but Destiny is our master.

Titus.—Destiny is our master.

(END OF PART I.)

PART II.

SECTION I.

[SCENE—*It is night. Karl Hanno is sound asleep upon a layer of straw in the center of the floor in a large farmhouse; isolated, deserted and in an impoverished condition. The Heavenly Powers assemble around him in a circle of 270 degrees and in the middle of the elliptical part of the circle stands Destiny, leaving Karl Hanno in the center; the others are arranged in the following order: To the right of Destiny, the Power of Good; next, following the circle, the Prince of Vanity; next, the Power of Love; next, the Power of Evil; next, the Power of Temptation; next, the Power of Accidents; next, the Prince of Poverty; next, the Prince of Fools; and next, the Prince of Wisdom. All the Heavenly Powers have wings, and are robed in long, loose fitting garments, each in his own hue: Power of Good, in snow-white; Prince of Vanity, in glittering yellow; Power of Love, in a light-blue; Power of Evil, in red; Power of Temptation, in green; Power of Accidents, in black; Prince of Poverty, in gray; Prince of Fools, in pink; Prince of Wisdom, in indigo. All these different colors pertain to Destiny by whom the assembly is controlled under supervision of the Higher Ordinances set forth by the Maker of all Things.*]

Destiny.—The assembly is called to order! First proceeding:

—At the day of his birth, Karl Hanno was destined to remain poor according to his fitness in life to suit a certain divine purpose. It was known, and it was then foreseen that at the age of forty-three years, Karl Hanno, while still in poverty, would by this time pledge himself to comply with the Heavenly Laws communicated to him by each of the powers and according to this, Karl Hanno was destined for a change of life, from poverty to wealth. To do this, it will be necessary to appear unto him by means of a vision and induce him to commit him-

self into our presence. This he will do as he is a believer in spirits.

Prince of Vanity.—Most Holy Act Divine of Destiny.

--I move that I be permitted to appear unto Karl Hanno by means of a vision to induce him to commit himself into our presence.

Destiny.—The motion is accepted. Prince of Vanity is charged to carry out this motion.

(Prince of Vanity makes three raps on the floor.

Karl Hanno wakes up. He sees a vision.)

Prince of Vanity.—Karl Hanno, Child of Destiny: Fear not! The Blessing of All Good is smiling sweetly upon thy brow. For the time is at hand when thou shalt undergo a change of life and be blessed not only with a fortune but with all that in which thou shalt see all of thy wishes answered. This however is now depending upon thyself and upon condition only that thou pledge thyself to comply with the Heavenly Laws commanded thee to keep by the Heavenly Powers. Dost thou believe in spirits?

Karl Hanno.—I do.

Prince of Vanity.—Art thou afraid of them?

Karl Hanno.—I am not.

Prince of Vanity.—Art thou ready to commit thyself into the presence of the Heavenly Powers?

Karl Hanno.—For what reason?

Prince of Vanity.—Ah! thou must be reconciled with the Heavenly Powers whom thou has often insulted because of thy ignorance of the Heavenly Laws and it is for this reason that thou must receive instructions from them before thou canst be permitted to be in control of great wealth. Wilt thou, or wilt thou not? Upon this now is depending thy destiny. Art thou ready?

Karl Hanno.—I am.

Prince of Vanity.—Then stand upon thy feet, and as soon as thou shalt raise thy right hand above thy brow, and place thy left hand upon thy heart thou shalt be in presence of the Heavenly Powers.

(He does so and is in presence of Heavenly Powers precisely arranged in a circle as described and is face to face with each of the powers while speaking.)

Destiny.—Karl Hanno Child of Destiny: Thou art now in presence of the Heavenly Powers who under supervision of the Higher Ordinance have charge of thy destiny. Thou hast been struggling in vain, and under the weight of poverty thou hast borne thy lot and misfortunes so manfully that thy conduct through life up to this moment has been recognized with divine favor. The time is now at hand when thou shalt undergo a change of life and be blessed not only with a fortune but with all that in which thou shalt see all of thy wishes answered. Thou wast destined to remain poor as thou wast not fitted to be in control of great wealth and as thou wouldst use thy wealth in opposition to the Heavenly Laws and fail in a certain divine purpose. But now thou shalt be permitted henceforth to possess great wealth on condition that thou wilt pledge thyself to comply with the Heavenly Laws commanded thee by each of the Heavenly Powers having charge of thy destiny! Fear nothing: He that is at peace with himself, and he that is obediently trusting in the Higher Order of Things, he is the Child of destiny. Thou art now called to proceed, for I am Destiny. (*He proceeds.*)

Power of Good—Karl Hanno, Child of Destiny: Henceforth shalt thou be blessed not only with a for-

tune but with all that in which thou shalt see all of thy wishes answered. But before thou canst be permitted this thou must give a solemn pledge to comply with the laws that I shall command thee to keep within the jurisdiction of my kingdom. Raise thy right hand above thy brow, and place thy left hand upon thy heart as a token of this pledge. (*He does so.*)

—Behold! When thou shalt be seated in thy stately wealth, thou shalt be in sympathy with all institutions established for a good purpose and thou shalt give them material support; thou shalt also be in sympathy with individuals endeavoring to establish good; further thou shalt be in sympathy with all the needy, the unfortunate beggars, the sorely distressed, the destitute. to all these thou shalt contribute toward their relief. If thou wilt do this then wilt thou be fitted to be in control of great wealth and my kingdom will flourish, for I am the Power of Good.

Destiny.—Next!

(*Karl Hanno passes to the next, and so on.*)

Prince of Vanity.--Karl Hanno, Child of Destiny:

What is life without the odor of sweetness,
And what is a man without money?
Life to him is like water filled with bitterness
And he himself is like a bee without honey.

So true, and full of logic is this statement of mine;
So comprehensive and clear in its result
That neither heaven nor earth could object to any
design

Having a tendency toward happiness, free from
guilt.

Never is earthly happiness really prospering
Under any shade of poverty, for,
If soul and body are suffering
There, misery awaiteth him at the door.

—But I shall speak freely. Fear not! Karl Hanno, for thou art the Child of Destiny and the Blessing of all Good is smiling sweetly upon thy brow. The time is at hand when thou shalt undergo a change of life and be blessed not only with a fortune, but with all that, in which thou shalt see all of thy wishes answered. But before thou canst be permitted this, thou must give a solemn pledge to comply with the laws that I shall command thee within the jurisdiction of my kingdom. Raise thy right hand above thy brow, and place thy left hand upon thy heart as a token of the pledge. (*He does so*).

—Behold! When thou shalt be seated in thy stately wealth thou shalt not be a miser, burying thy treasures in the ground; Thou shalt not be stingy when thou ought to be generous, for such is not vanity; Thou shalt not abide in the impoverished mode of life as thou wast obliged to do in the past; Thou shalt assume an air of vanity inasmuch as thou wilt not make a fool of thyself; Thou shalt entertain thy friends and neighbors with costly feasts, banquets, dinners; and thou shalt keep plenty of servants for thyself and for thy future wife; Thou shalt surround thy court with poets, philosophers, actors, actresses, songsters and invite foreign princes to pay thee visits so as to cause wonder and admiration. Ah! does that make thee smile, Karl Hanno? Listen: In all this splendor thou shalt not forget that once thou wast poor and those who desire to enter thy gates, thou shalt freely admit and treat them in such a way that vanity may command their respect. If thou wilt do this then wilt thou be fitted to be in control of great wealth and my kingdom will flourish, for I am the Prince of Vanity.

Destiny.—Next!

Power of Love.—Karl Hanno Child of Destiny: Fear not! The Blessing of all Good is smiling sweetly upon thy brow, for the time is at hand when thou shalt be blessed not only with a fortune but with all that, in which thou shalt see all of thy wishes answered. But before thou canst be permitted this thou must give a solemn pledge to comply with the laws that I shall command thee within the jurisdiction of my kingdom. Raise thy right hand above thy brow, and place thy left hand upon thy heart as a token of this pledge. (*He does so*).

—Behold! When thou shalt be seated in thy stately wealth thou shalt not close thy heart against others and be selfish; thou shalt remember those to whom thou owest thy love, and thou shalt make happy those who are depending upon thy charity; thou shalt not give offense to thy brother, or to the unfortunate because of thy riches, neither shalt thou make thy power felt on the weak, on thy servants, or on thy subordinates; Thou shalt not discount love, nor any deed of love from whatever source it may come. Remember: Love is the eternal law supreme and it never was, and never will be discounted by the Maker of all Things. And if any man shall discount love, or any deed of love he shall be branded by the curse of Destiny for this heavenly offense. If thou wilt abide by all this that I have commanded thee to do, then wilt thou be fitted to be in control of great wealth and my kingdom will flourish, for I am the Power of Love.

Destiny.—Next!

Power of Evil.—Karl Hanno Child of Destiny. Fear no evil as thou art in the hands of Destiny. The

time is at hand when thou shalt be blessed, not only with a fortune but with all that, in which thou shalt see all of thy wishes answered. And in consequence of this the Power of Evil shall no more resolve upon thy fate. But before thou canst be permitted this thou must give a solemn pledge to comply with the laws that I shall command thee within the jurisdiction of my kingdom. Raise thy right hand above thy brow, and place thy left hand upon thy heart as a token of this pledge. (*He does so*).

—Behold! When thou shalt be seated in thy stately wealth, and if it shall happen that thy country shall be at war with another country, and if thy king and sovereign shall come to thee and apply for a war-loan, then shalt thou not refuse him a loan because war is an evil, but thou shalt let him have as many hundred millions as he shall ask for—(*K. H.*)—O, Destiny, is this a dream?—(*D.*)—Behold thou art in presence of the Heavenly Powers. Be holy!—(*continued*). War is an evil but remember: There shall always be evil in this world. Evil against evil to keep the balance of power, has become a law of the Common Order and thou shalt not tread upon laws which are permitted to exist by the Maker of all things. If thou wilt comply with this thou wilt then be fitted to be in control of great wealth and my kingdom will flourish, for I am the Power of Evil.

Destiny.—Next!

Power of Temptation—Karl Hanno Child of Destiny: Be of good cheer. The time is at hand when thou shalt be blessed not only with a fortune but with all that in which thou shalt see all of thy wishes answered. But before thou canst be per-

mitted this, thou must give a solemn pledge to comply with the laws that I shall command thee within the jurisdiction of my kingdom. Raise thy right hand above thy brow, and place thy left hand upon thy heart as a token of this pledge. (*He does so*).

—Behold! When thou shalt be seated in thy stately wealth thou shalt not put thy hands into thy pockets and go to sleep over thy wealth, but thou shalt be as active as ever before. Thou wilt be tempted by new enterprises to gain power, high honors and even to occupy the seat of the government. In all these things thou shalt be wide awake in all of thy capacity to secure victory. If thou wilt do this then wilt thou be fitted to be in control of great wealth and my kingdom will flourish, for I am the Power of Temptation.

Destiny.—Next!

Power of Accidents.—Karl Hanno, Child of Destiny:

Best Greeting. The time is at hand when thou shalt be blessed not only with a fortune, but with all that in which thou shalt see all of thy wishes answered. But before thou canst be permitted this, thou must give a solemn pledge to comply with the laws that I shall command thee within the jurisdiction of my kingdom. Raise thy right hand above thy brow, and place thy left hand upon thy heart as a token of this pledge. (*He does so*).

—Behold! When thou shalt be seated in thy stately wealth, thou shalt not ascribe thy grand success to thyself and call it "smart." Thou shalt remember that whatsoever thou wilt be master of, that thou was permitted these attainments by Destiny under the Higher Order of

things, and that in this case thou wast destined to succeed. If thou wilt not comply with this, then wilt thou neither be fitted to be in control of great wealth, as thy fortune will not be protected by destiny and I shall cause accidents, bankruptcy and demoralization in thy earthly welfare, for I am the Power of Accidents.

Destiny.—Next!

Prince of Poverty.—Karl Hanno, Child of Destiny:

Be of good cheer. The time is at hand that thou shalt be blessed not only with a fortune, but with all that in which thou shalt see all of thy wishes answered and thou shalt soon pass out of my hands. But before thou canst be permitted this thou must give a solemn pledge to comply with the laws that I shall command thee within the jurisdiction of my kingdom: Raise thy right hand above thy brow and place thy left hand upon thy heart as a token of this pledge. (*He does so.*)

—Behold! When thou shalt be seated in thy stately wealth thou shalt give great sums to the poor, but only in small drips to each individual so that their existence may continue from hand to mouth and that such men may remain in a state of poverty. The poor shall always be in this world and it has become a law of the Common Order and thou shalt not interfere with laws permitted to exist by the Maker of all Things. If thou wilt comply with this, then wilt thou be fitted to be in control of great wealth and my kingdom will flourish, for I am the Prince of Poverty.

Destiny.—Next!

Prince of Fools.—Karl Hanno, Child of Destiny:

Blessed is thy lot. The time is at hand that thou

shalt be blessed not only with a fortune, but with all that in which thou shalt see all of thy wishes answered. But before thou canst be permitted this, thou must give a solemn pledge to comply with the laws that I shall command thee within the jurisdiction of my kingdom. Raise thy right hand above thy brow, and place thy left hand upon thy heart as a token of this pledge. (*He does so.*)

—Behold thou shalt not make fools of others, but man, according to his free act and will, may make a fool of himself. Now when thou shalt be seated in thy stately wealth, they will of course all wonder at the high hand of thine and speculate on the measure of thy happiness. Thou shalt then say that thou wast happier when thou hadst but as now being dissatisfied with too much. They will pretend to believe it as thy can do no better and follow the plan of "high life," and thus make fools of themselves. There shall always be fools in this world, this has become a law of the Common Order and thou shalt let it exist as it is permitted to exist by the Maker of all Things. If thou wilt do this, then shalt thou be fitted to be in control of great wealth and my kingdom will flourish, for I am the Prince of Fools.

Destiny.—Next!

Prince of Wisdom.—Karl Hanno, Child of Destiny: Be cheery and happy. The Blessing of All Good is smiling sweetly upon thy brow for the time is at hand when thou shalt undergo a change of life and be blessed not only with a fortune but with all that in which thou shalt see all of thy wishes answered. But before thou canst be permitted this, thou must give a solemn pledge to comply with the laws that I shall command thee within the jurisdiction of

my kingdom. Raise thy right hand above thy brow, and place thy left hand upon thy heart as a token of this pledge. (*He does so.*)

—Behold! When thou shalt be seated in thy stately wealth thou shalt not try to carry thy head any higher than is thy ordinary tallness. Thou shalt not use braggarts' language, nor have a swelled head concerning thy riches. In society, and passing through the multitudes thou shalt not assume an overbearing attitude as much as thereby to proclaim that thou art something great. In thy dealings observe prudence and guard the approaches of smooth tongues which might take advantage of thy vanity. Do not judge things from the outside. Fear nothing save the Maker of thy soul. If thou wilt be faithful in all these things, then wilt thou be fitted to be in control of great wealth and my kingdom will flourish, for I am the Prince of Wisdom.

(*Karl Hanno has passed around the circle and again approaches Destiny and they are face to face.*)

Destiny.—Karl Hanno, my child: Thou art now at peace with the Heavenly Powers who are charged to carry out thy destiny. Thou hast made thy pledges with the nine Powers and Functionaries by whom thou shalt be permitted to succeed, not only to acquire a great fortune, but to attain all that in which thou shalt see all of thy wishes answered. It was known, and it was therefore seen at the day of thy birth, that on this day thou wouldst make these pledges and be faithful to them, and it was for this reason that thou was destined at the age of forty-three years to be blessed with a fortune both in riches and happiness such as was never enjoyed by any mortal. After many storms in life henceforth

there shall be sunshine and to love, and to be loved shall fill the measure of thy happiness. First of all I shall give thee instructions as to the manner of proceeding, how, and in what way this immense promised fortune of thine thou shalt obtain.

—Behold! Thou shalt not go to Crystal City filled with gold to seize a fortune thereof as thou hast done hitherto. Thou shalt reach thy fortune without being exposed to danger, and in a much simpler way, singular in art and yet so natural. In the abyss, in the Secret Cave passing under the Great River which is about a stone's throw from the first entrance, and where thou and thy beloved friend Titus broke through; way, way down on the bottom of an immense depth there lay 35,000,000 ounces of pure and solid gold (\$700,000,000) and the bones of many human bodies all of which in the course of many centuries dropped through as they passed upon the weak spot. But now, neither thou nor any other man can go down to the bottom of the abyss of such immense depth and seize this gold. But it will come to pass that after forty days a number of dragons (*serpents having wings*) who inhabit the depth of the earth, will hunt for themselves a new dwelling. They will enter this abyss and desire to make it their home. They will find everything agreeable except this gold, which is an injury to their eyes on account of its phenomenal glittering. One by one they will seize this gold and bring it all up through the breach of the abyss and lay it upon the surface all around the breach. Thou shalt be at hand and immediately remove the same as the increased weight of the gold will cause another breach and the gold will again drop down the abyss. The art and method adapted to transport the gold to a

place of safe-keeping, and to secure thyself against robbery, or any other attacks, thou must provide for thyself. Thou hast been instructed by the nine Powers and Functionaries what policy to pursue and that is alone correct, namely: that thou shalt not put thy hands into thy pockets and go to sleep over thy wealth, but to be wide awake in all thy capacity to secure victory. Remember Titus to whom thou owest thy love. Remember all the instructions and commandments given thee by the Powers and Functionaries and if thou wilt be faithful in all these things then will the fairest conditions of life and happiness be established.

—But before all of these transactions can receive my seal and signature thou must give a solemn pledge to do what I shall command thee to do: Raise thy right hand above thy brow and place thy left hand upon thy heart as a token of this pledge. (*He does so.*)

—Behold! Teach all men that man is *not* the maker of his own destiny: For if man, and each man be the maker of his own destiny, there could no longer exist a Higher Ordinance but in place of that, there would be chaos and confusion. Teach all men that all things were foreseen and that his destiny was fixed according to the coming events in life, circumstances, and the purpose that lay in these things. Teach all men that his destiny was fixed according to his fitness and future conduct in life. Teach all men that man is not a machine of destiny whose vocation is already determined by its construction, but teach them at the same time that destiny is neither the machine of man.

—When thou wast born, thou wast found to be a healthy little baby with a constitution strong

enough to overcome all the little baby sicknesses; and thou wast destined to live a young boy in spite of all the dangers that might threaten thy life. It was foreseen that when thou wouldst be a young boy, thou wouldst have developed very nicely and not drawing on death on thy own part, thou wast destined to live a man. It was foreseen that when thou wouldst be a man, and not drawing on death on thy own part, thou wast destined to live an old aged man. Consequently at the day of thy birth thou wast destined to live an old aged man and wast granted a safe conduct through life, to be rescued when in peril and fate. Fear nothing, my child, safe the Maker of thy soul. Be true and faithful in all things and it shall be well with thee forever. (*Scene closes*).

SECTION II.

[SCENE.—*Karl Hanno is at home. Their house is a dwelling of modest appearance. In a large room the family is gathered, consisting of father, mother, Louis, and Lidia Hanno, Titus and his wife. They are all attentive to hear what Karl has to say as he takes the floor*].

Karl H.—Happiest greeting to you all:

—Behold! The time is at hand when I shall undergo a change of life from poverty to wealth and be blessed not only with a fortune, but with all that in which I shall see all of my wishes answered. Thus far we have been striving faithfully with all efforts to bring the standard of life to a higher level, but we have met with failure and disappointment. All this will change, and all things will be made new. Father, mother, brother, sister, take your woes and cares and forever let them drop down to the bottomless depths of the abyss whence they will never return again. For the dream of my life, that I shall see at least one moment in life in which I shall see all of my wishes answered, is now about to become a reality and the conviction of this moment which I so fondly cherished in my heart in all the days of my life is now proving to be a divine truth. And you, Titus, be of good cheer, for I shall soon be able to repay you thousand—and thousandfold. Not so much for what you have given me, which was always half of all that you had acquired, but for the sympathy and love so cherished in your bosom for me that you have never left me in my destitution. Believe me, though it is beyond comprehension, it is even true that I have presently seen things of

an indescribable manifestation and my promised lot bears the seal and signature of Destiny. (*All bewildered.*)

—Karl! Karl! are you sure of being awake? The story is too good to believe.

Karl H.—Listen! On my tour through the country I stopped in a large, isolated and deserted farmhouse through the night. I laid me down on the floor and went sound asleep. All at once I woke up by the noise of sharp raps. Looking, I saw a man standing near by me and candidly he spoke: "Art thou afraid of spirits?" "I am not," I replied. Said he: "Then raise thy right hand above thy brow and place thy left hand upon thy heart and thou wilt be in presence of the Heavenly Powers." I did so and I was in presence of ten spirits assembled around me in a circle and controlled by one of them. There was a thrill, that went through my veins followed by a high sensation of bliss when the chief of them announced to me the intended purpose. "Karl Hanno, thou art the Child of Destiny," he proceeded, "fear not! The time is at hand when thou shalt undergo a change of life from poverty to wealth as thou shalt be blessed not only with a fortune, but with all that in which thou shalt see all of thy wishes answered." After so many things and after so many ceremonies and pledges and communications were transacted, with which I shall make you acquainted hereafter, then was disclosed to me in what manner, in what way, and how I should obtain the promised fortune in riches and happiness so great as was never before enjoyed by any mortal. (*All are staggered.*)

Mrs. Hanno.—At last heaven is showing its face and

the gloomy clouds of poverty are pierced by the sun of the promised fortune. And why should you not be worthy of these things, my son? You have had many misfortunes in your life and they were always too ready to blame you for your in-born piety, and pitied you for the lack of dash and shrewdness which is commanding success, but you bore all these insults so manfully with such purity of heart that it could not be otherwise than that the conduct of your life should be recognized with divine favor. "With this my in-born piety I shall either rise or fall," was always your maxim. But you will not fall, you will rise: for all things are pointing toward that event. Victory! Victory! Victory!

Louis H.—Mother! you bear the true stamp of a mother: If nothing else will make your son great, you will. Well, we shall see.

Titus.—Karl! Karl! I would be only too willing to believe all truthful things were it not beyond comprehension. It staggers my senses.

Mr. Hanno.—All these high sounding phrases do very little to lift the weight of poverty and unless I can see something positive in the newly created hope, I am slow to accept such visionary conundrum of spirits. Vision! Vision! Well, we shall see.

Karl H.—Nothing visionary. Hope is dismissed. All is positive. For these spirits have told me so many many things that it would be impossible ever to commit them to memory; but I have them all in my memory; so clear, so positive, so distinct that not an Iota is missing.

Titus.—Then I demand: Show us clearly, positively, and distinctly in what manner, in what way, and how the promised fortune shall be obtained.

Karl H.—Listen and I will tell you: Not Crystal City filled with gold is harboring our fortune as might be supposed. We shall reach our fortune without being exposed to danger and in a much simpler way, singular in art, and yet so natural. The abyss, remember, near the mouth of the Secret Cave where we twice broke through, way, way down on the bottom of its immense depths there lay 35,000,000 ounces of pure, solid gold (\$700,000,000) and the bones of many human bodies, all of which in the course of many centuries dropped through as they passed upon the weak spot. But now, no man can ever go down to the bottom of the abyss to seize this gold. But it will come to pass that after 37 days from now, a number of dragons will hunt for themselves a new dwelling. They will enter this abyss and desire to make it their home. They will find everything agreeable except this gold which is an injury to their eyes on account of its phenomenal glittering brightness. One by one they will seize the gold and bring it all up through the breach of the abyss and lay it upon the surface all around the breach. We must then be at hand and immediately remove it as the increased weight of the gold will cause another breach and the gold may again drop down the abyss. This is what I was told by the spirits, and the day will prove that it is correct.

(All indulge in shouts and praises of Karl Hanno seemingly without end).

Titus—Now I can see great things. This revelation bears the mark of truth, for it is very reasonable that lots of gold must be down in the abyss. Anyhow, our 700 pounds are there; that we know.

And that such things as dragons might prowl round in abysses is an old known thing; and that the glance and glitter of the gold probably hurts their eyes, as they are used to darkness, that all stands to reason and there is nothing visionary in that. But why in Sam's conundrum didn't we think of that? Oh! how ashamed do I feel now when looking at myself how in the past I was clinging to the theory, "Man is the maker of his own destiny." And how have you so patiently waited for the moment to come in which the tide of life would take a turn, and now, how little will I appear when you are seated in your stately wealth, blessed with all that in which you shall see all of your wishes answered? But Karl, remember all that I have done for you, as you have readily confessed it, was not done in a spirit to be paid back with high interest, as I never had an idea that you would ever rise above your poverty. But now when you are in possession of that immense fortune, and whatever you do in your exalted state, all I ask, do not deny the sympathy and love that I have cherished in my bosom for you.

Karl H.—The moon and the stars shall drop to the ground ere I shall deny you in any of this, my future magnificence. For the same power that has promised me all these things, has also given me laws to abide by namely: To remember those to whom I owe my love, and to make happy those who are depending upon my charity. And the sympathy and love so cherished in your bosom for me in my destitution is now recognized by the Maker of all Things as in the foregoing proceedings I was particularly reminded to remember you; and told that Love, or any Deed of Love, never

was, and never will be discounted by the Maker of all Things; and that, if any man shall discount Love, or any Deed of Love, he shall be branded by the curse of Destiny for this heavenly offense. But enough of this. There is something else to be done now: 35,000,000 ounces of gold equaling in value \$700,000,000, how will we get this staggering fortune to a place of safekeeping, and how about the means of transportation?

Titus.—Keep all things secret.

Karl H.—I think we tried this scheme once before, and failed. It will take 1,000 wagons to load 35,000,000 ounces of gold.

Lidia H.—Bury it there in the ground.

Karl H.—That I durst not do as I would not be fitted to be in control of great wealth. For me to be rich is to be wide awake and to employ my fortune in such a way as to cause wonder and admiration. You will be surprised, I tell you.

Mrs. Hanno.—After all, perhaps it would be better to be content with little than to be dissatisfied with too much.

Karl H.—No! The Prince of Fools commanded me not to believe such a thing as long as I don't want to become his subject.

Mrs. Titus.—Why I don't see what you want with \$700,000,000. Who ever heard of such a thing?

Louis H.—Let me give you a pointer: Suppose we gather an army of poverty-stricken men to help us in the transportation of this gold: we take half, and give them the other half and let them have a bite of the fortune. How is that?

Karl H.—No! I was commanded to give money to the poor only in small drips so that they may continue to make an existence from hand to mouth. There

shall always be poor in this world. This has become a law of the Common Order and I must not tread upon a law permitted to exist by the Maker of all Things.

Mr. Hanno.—So then I understand God wants to have poor in this world and to make them all rich, would be out of order. Is that it?

Karl H.—Yes! and that is piety, too.

Louis H.—Must you take care of all the 35,000,000 ounces of gold?

Karl H.—To be sure I must else I would not be fitted to be in control of great wealth, consequently I could not succeed.

Mrs. Hanno.—Well, did I ever see anything so strange!

Louis H.—Well ma, that's the way it is; we poor people don't possess capacity enough to take care of a fortune. No wonder—

Mrs. Titus.—Yes! and then they wonder, and wonder why they were not destined to be rich.

Titus.—Well, well, now this is empty talk. We'll take care of it. How is this: Suppose we could make a deal with the government and move his Majesty to protect us against any attack of robbery; and suppose his Majesty is urged to make a loan, it would not be impossible to dictate terms to him to suit our purpose. Or how is this: Suppose we could not make a deal with the government in the case of a loan, and suppose we go and establish a sort of a money center right there where the gold is, and if then the plan would not prove to be practical, we could at any time thereafter do what ought to be done. The scheme ought to work.

Karl H.—The scheme ought to work, yes; but the scheme might not work, because it ought to work, and as for a reason I think this: Would it be prac-

tical at any rate to establish a money center seven to eight hundred miles away from civilization? In my estimation, it is not like business and therefore the scheme is not genuine. As to the plan to strike a deal with the government, in my estimation, the scheme is correct. But the government is not in need of making a loan now and his Majesty would not be willing to send out an expedition to promote a private undertaking at the public expense. On the other hand, he might be willing to do that but we would have to pay very likely an extravagant price for it. And this, in my estimation, we will not do. It is not like business. But suppose the government were in sore need of money and we could furnish them a loan and dictate terms to his Majesty, then would our undertaking become a public affair, and his Majesty would have his hands free and send out an expedition on the public expense and the whole transportation of the gold would not cost us anything. And that is like business.

Titus.—Crackerty, wreckerty—then let us have war! Any old thing will do for a pretext to stir up the country and the people against a foreign nation and the government will soon discover an empty treasury in the capital compelling them to make a War Loan. But mind you, it must be a war on a large scale, to make sure that the government will be compelled to accept our terms. War is cruel, but what do we care when others fight the battles.

Karl H.—That's getting the thing down to a fine point. I thought of that, but did hate to come out with it. Now, if you think you can stir up the country to plunge it into a big war with a foreign nation, and if you think you can make those believe who fight the battles that our war is a Righteous

war, and if you can believe this yourself and keep your conscience clear, I say "go ahead," and we will furnish the government a War Loan. It's business! It is business.

Mrs. Hanno.—Horrible! just horrible! Just think, to plunge the country into a bloody war to suit the purpose of a few individuals. My son, what has become of your piety?

Karl H.—I am not going to stir up war, mother! I said: If Titus can stir up war and keep his conscience clear, to go ahead.

Titus.—Well, this I cannot do.

Karl H.—So then we will not have war, mother! Be satisfied now.

Titus.—Well, that knocks us out on that scheme.

Karl H.—But I say this: Although I will not by any manner of act, in public or private, stir up war, as I am opposed to that, yet if war should come from any other source, and my king and sovereign should come to me to furnish him a War Loan, I tell you, I shall let him have as many hundred millions as he shall ask for. War is an evil, but there shall always be evil in this world. "Evil against Evil to keep the Balance of Power." This has become a law of the Common Order and I must let it exist, as it is permitted to exist by the Maker of all Things.

Lidia H.—Why brother, would you really furnish the government a War Loan if war should come? Suppose that you could prevent a great war and save thousands of human lives by not furnishing the government a War Loan, would you not do it for humanity's sake?

Karl H.—Why sister Lidia—I am not prepared for so ticklish a question as that is. But I say, if war

should come from any other source, I shall furnish the government a War Loan without weighing the question: For if I will not, others will, and I would not be fitted to be in control of great wealth. It is business! strictly business!

Titus.—War, in my estimation, is indispensable in this world, and no man has ever been so great to invent something in its place. "Evil against Evil to keep the Balance of Power."

—Why certainly!

Mrs. Titus.—War, in my estimation, is cruel and distasteful, and it should be discarded from the records of civilization. But if it is an "Evil against Evil to keep the Balance of Power" and if this has become a law of the Common Order, in my estimation, it would be quite foolish to undertake to revolutionize an established order of things.

Louis H.—War, in my estimation, is cruel and distasteful, but it has made many heroes; brought national prosperity, and always has been the great agent of civilization. So then let us have war.

Mr. Hanno.—So then you have come to the conclusion that war is an institution of the Common Order, have you?

Karl H.—Yes, pa. What conclusion have you come to?

Mr. Hanno.—I have come to a conclusion to give you a good pointer on that: Go to the national capital and have an interview with the king on that subject.

Titus.—O, no, father Hanno, that wouldn't do. The king must be compelled to come to us, then we can dictate terms to him; but if we go to the king we play the trump right into his hand and he will dictate terms to us. You see the point?

Mr. Hanno.—I do. But better let him have one trump than lose all the cards. Suppose you could do no better than to pay the king an extravagant price for sending out an expedition, how much would this extravagant price be? You know war is not in sight.

Titus.—We will see: 1,000 wagons upon which to load the gold; 8,000 troops to give it a safe-conduct; 3,000 hands; 2,000 helpers; 4,000 horses; provisions and supplies for nearly a month. The expedition will cost at a reasonable price \$3,000,000, and at an extravagant price \$5,000,000.

Mr. Hanno.—Now what is \$5,000,000 out of \$700,000,000?

Karl H.—Yes, pa, but that's not all. The real point is this: If the king were compelled to come to us to furnish him a War-Loan, we could dictate terms to him to the effect to store away our gold in the government vaults and to place a guard over it. The protection of the government is almost indispensable. \$10,000,000 would not pay for the accommodation that we could get out of the government if the king were compelled to come to us to furnish him a War-Loan. But of course war will not come to further our purpose.

Titus.—But what would you do if war should break out now, right off, to-day, or any time yet before we start for the Secret Cave. You say we have 37 days yet before the display of the dragons will come to pass.

Karl H.—What would I do? Why I should go at once to the national capital and give the government a chance to see me about a War-Loan. But now understand they must come to us, then we can have it our own way.

Titus.—What a power there is in that precious metall
(*The weekly paper comes in from Saint Marliduke, the national capital of the Hobbies, and Mrs. Titus reads the political news.*)

Mrs. Titus.—Listen to the news!

—“May 23d: The session of the parliament had for its purpose an increase of the army and the navy and as might be expected, met with opposition. Hot debates ensuing from both sides, resulting however in the defeat of the bill on the ground, that peace was yet secure; the political horizon as clear as ever and that there was no demand for an increase of the army and navy, especially as the national treasury was showing a deficit in spite of the already heavy taxation of the people.”

Karl H.—That settles that. No war, and no War-Loan, and we might as well get ready and start to the Secret Cave; the sooner the better. And if we can do no more, we can at least remove the gold away from the breach. This we must do under all and any circumstances. And if we can do no better we must at last resort to the objectionable means of burying it in the ground for safekeeping until we can procure means of transportation. We cannot tell what may yet happen. Perhaps we can make a deal with the government thereafter. Titus! good old Hobby, let us settle it right here: 35,000,000 ounces of gold is equal in value to \$700,000,000; \$350,000,000 will be yours. Now sign these papers certifying that this is your share. Now will that satisfy you?

Titus.—No! and again, No! I cannot accept it; it is too much; I am not entitled to so much. And why sign papers?

Karl H.—O, it might come handy to show them before an authority. Now come sign these papers for your share of \$350,000,000.

Titus.—No, I am not entitled to so much as it has not cost me a breath to acquire it.

Karl H.—Makes no difference, you have always done the same with me, giving me half of what you acquired.

Titus.—Yes, but that did not amount to so much.

Karl H.—It did, too. One dollar in need is worth a hundred when you have plenty, and I want you to accept this.

Titus.—No, I tell you; I will not accept it. It is too much.

Karl H.—But you must. I insist upon it. It is your legal share, in accordance to our pledges to each other: "Not to leave one another until the fairest conditions of life and happiness are established." Dare you do me such insult as to refuse to take half of mine which I want to give you with a ready heart? Now you take half of this and sign these papers. You must.

Titus.—I must not. I will not. I can not. And let this be the last of it.

Karl H.—How much then will you accept?

Titus.—5,000,000 ounces; \$100,000,000 is all I want to take care of.

Lidia H. (aside).—Pa, what do you make of that? It sounds like a fable.

Pa H. (aside).—I think that's all it is.

Karl H.—Then sign these papers for 5,000,000 ounces of gold as a legal protection for your own good. They might come handy.

Titus.—All right—(*Titus signs the papers for 5,000,000 ounces of gold, \$100,000,000*); and I will be then the second richest man in the world.

Karl H.—Well you are the first man that I have ever seen that could be satisfied.

Mr. Hanno.—Now if your scheme is really not a spiritual conundrum, Karl, you may hit it.

Karl H.—Never mind, pa. I have everything to gain and nothing to lose. But I know one thing: The conviction of my heart must be first satisfied ere I can say to this world: "Thou owest me nothing."

Titus,—Now Karl remember, this is your trip. You are supposed to take the lead, I, to follow. Have you provided for everything?

Karl H.—Everything is ready to start. You know this time we don't need ropes, nor a casket; no rivers to swim across. Yes! we are right in it. So then all farewell. Off we go. (*They start*)

Stranger (Enters).—War! War! War! War! War has been declared.

SECTION III.

(SCENE—*It is a building on an immensely large scale bearing all the features of royalty in one of the mightiest cities on earth. This is "The Parliament Building." It consists of a large hall where parliament meets, and a chamber adjacent to the entrance of the parliament hall called "the Waiting Parlor." Parliament meets and the session is opened by the king with the "Speech from the Throne," having for its purpose to secure a War-Loan furnished by all the great financiers of the country who are also present at the right of the throne by a group to itself, among whom are also Karl Hanno and Titus.*)

King.—To the servants of the state, to the subjects and to the representatives of the nation:

In God We Trust.

—This is a moment which, could all things be controlled by human power, we would have gladly avoided and exult in the blessings of peace. But the destiny of a nation as well as that of every individual, guided and governed by the eternal laws of the Higher Ordinance, has often designs different from those of ours. As a nation we have desired peace, but our desires have been follied by abuses, insults, and by violations of national rights and honor from an other nation which, as we would have presumed only a fortnight ago, could not have been possible. As a consequence of this evil event so brought on by the will of an ill-feeling people at our border, your king and sovereign in the name of his government has declared war against this insolent and arrogant neighbor of ours in order to maintain our national rights and honor. In consequence of this we shall do well to suit ourselves to the situation in which we are presently involved, to

serve his national interests as though it were his own affair and in such a way that peace again may soon be restored in the achievement of our victory. This is our prayer. (*Exit.*)

Premier.—To the parliament:

—In consequence of the sudden outburst of this war things are rushing, and the transaction of business connected therewith is to assume a quick forward move direct to the point without the parliamentary clumsiness in the way of its decision.

—FIRST: It is the object of this parliamentary session to consider the state of finances, having in view the express purpose to vote the government a War-Loan to meet the expenses of the war carried on on the largest scale for three months.

—SECOND: For the parliament to give its indorsement that the War-Loan must be furnished by the great financiers of our country so as to keep us free from any foreign obligations. Prince of Crain, the Hobby Treasurer, will state before parliament the condition of the national treasury.

H. Treasurer—Your honor: The national treasury of the Hobbies is empty.

Premier.— Everything is surprising; but to the point: The Minister of War will state the amount needed for carrying on the war on the largest scale for three months. Make your statements short!

Min. of War.—Your honor: The amount necessary to carry on the war on the largest scale for three months, both for the army and the navy, by a force of 700,000 men is \$425,000,000.

Premier.—To be short, parliament is asked to vote a War-Loan amounting to the sum of \$425,000,000. Is there any opposition?

From the right.—Your honor: I move that par-

liament grant this loan without further delay, and that the loan be furnished by the great financiers of our own country.

Premier.—Any opposition?—No opposition!—The motion is carried.

—The government is granted a War-Loan of \$425,000,000, voted by parliament in this extra session, and the loan must be furnished by the great financiers of our own country as we desire to keep free from any foreign obligations.

(Parliament is dismissed, but all the great financiers remain.)

Premier.—Now ye great financiers of the country, the government is looking up to your financial aid, to stand by the country and to furnish the War-Loan as we desire to keep free from any foreign obligations. Proceed with your offers; quick and short to the point.

Chief of the Banks.—Your honor: All the banks in the county, at present, can furnish no more than \$50,000,000. The issue is coming too quickly.

Min. of War.—Heavens! is that all?—that's right—

Premier.—Everything is surprising! But mind you: You ought to stand by the country and furnish the loan, even should it come out of your private pockets. The country now is in sore need of it.

Chief of the Banks.—Yes! yes! I understand very well, but our private pockets desire to keep free from foreign obligations.

Karl H. to Titus *(aside)*.—We will wait a little yet.

Titus to Karl H *(aside)*.—Yes, let the government be driven into the corner.

Premier.—What can be done? If there is no other way to raise the loan we must apply to our common citizens.

Chief of the Banks.—Your honor:—The banks got all

the money of the common citizens, and the wealthy ones have got their money invested in foreign Securities. I think this war has come at a wrong time.

Premier.—Yes, but this is business of the government. But then: Shall the government after all be driven to foreign obligations?

Titus to Karl H. (*aside.*)—Now, Karl, let loose.

Karl H.—Your honor: I will furnish the government the War-Loan of \$425,000,000 out of my own pocket, but I desire to have a private interview with the head of the government to arrange terms and conditions to suit both parties effecting the loan. (*All bewildered.*)

Premier.—Everything is surprising! But is it really possible that there is One man in the Hobby nation able to do such a thing? This is a staggering statement and I am hardly prepared to believe the good story. Well, we shall see: You shall have your private interview with the head of the government. And that lets you out, ye great financiers.

(*The Premier, Karl Hanno, Titus, the Minister of War and the Secretary of the State repair into the Waiting Parlor and are joined by the King. All others leave.*)

Titus to Karl (*aside.*)—Don't bring in your spirits when speaking to the King.

Karl.—O, no! for heaven's sake.

King.—Premier may present the purpose of this confidential interview.

Premier.—His Majesty King may not be surprised to hear that the War Loan of \$425,000,000 could not be raised by all the great financiers of the country; but his Majesty may rightfully be surprised to hear that no more than \$50,000,000 could be raised by all the banks of the country owing to the various circumstances of the financial system. After all the

financial sources became exhausted, Karl Hanno, this gentleman here in his Majesty's presence, offers to furnish the War-Loan of \$425,000,000 out of his own private wealth, depending however upon certain conditions, for which reason he also prefers to have a private interview with the head of the government as regards the loan. Things are all surprising!

King.—Karl Hanno, your high honor is met with the greatest pleasure of your king and sovereign especially in a moment like this when the country has need of you. In all the land, and the world over there is nothing to compare with you, nothing to compare with the astounding wealth controlled by you a man who is able to answer the wishes of a mighty nation. Your high honor is now graciously invited to make known upon what conditions your honor can afford to furnish the War-Loan, and if the conditions are in any way acceptable the deal shall be made, and closed forthwith. You may speak freely, without restraint in a confidential manner. It is now business, understand!

Karl H.—As it has so far pleased his Majesty to meet my modesty under the existing circumstances, I am equally as glad and ready to render my usefulness to the service of my king and sovereign as to the country as well regards furnishing the War-Loan. The conditions upon which this loan is depending, is not the arbitrary policy of my financial sway, but they are conditions equally imposed on myself. It is thus: His Majesty is of course well aware of the newly explored country beyond the Great River whose main attraction is Crystal City filled with gold. Many schemes and enterprises have foundered on account of the barrier of the Great River

forbidding access to this illustrious place. In company with my friend Titus we have made more than one trip to Crystal City, resulting, however, in failures. But on one of these trips, and under peculiar circumstances, we have discovered a mysterious cave, and a chasm within its gorge, and there lay hidden 35,000,000 ounces of pure, solid gold ready for use, equaling of course, \$700,000,000. One-seventh of this amount, or 5,000,000 ounces, is the share of my business partner, Titus. Now I shall furnish the government the War-Loan upon the following conditions:

—FIRST: The government shall fit out an expedition under the auspices of Karl Hanno and his business partner, Titus, to be sent out 600 miles from the border of our country to the Great River, the newly explored country, in order to transport 35,000,000 ounces of gold. The expedition must be furnished with 1,000 wagons or transports upon which to load the gold, and an escort party of six regiments, 5,000 men, to give it a safe-conduct against any attack of robbery.

—SECOND: The government shall give guarantee that all the expenses connected with this expedition, shall be free of charge to the furnisher of the War-Loan.

—THIRD: The government shall permit the remainder of the gold of Karl Hanno and Titus to be stored away in the government vaults for safe keeping with a guard placed over it during the storage, but the owners of the gold are to have complete control thereof.

—FOURTH: The expedition is urged to start within three days so as to be there in twenty-one days hence,

—Only upon these conditions shall I be able to furnish the War-Loan of \$425,000,000.

King.—The conditions here so stated are all acceptable, except that the storage of the remainder of the gold in government vaults, and its safe-guarding, must be paid for, as this is a private affair and cannot go on public expense.

Karl Hanno.—Very obediently do we agree to pay for this. Will his majesty demand the sum to be paid for the storage of the gold annually?

King.—\$4,000,0000 is graciously demanded for the storage of said gold annually.

Karl Hanno.—And this shall be paid out of the interest of the War-Loan for which I legally charge 2 per cent annually amounting to \$8,500,000 a year.

Premier.—Well I consider that a good bargain on the part of the loaner and on the part of the government. I consider it is the best that can be done. For the national necessity of war is really the dictator of terms, and his Majesty will be prudent to close the deal.

King.—I say, go ahead. The secretary will draw up the papers stipulating the articles of agreements as set forth in these proceedings of both parties.

Secretary.—His Majesty: It is necessary for his business partner to produce papers showing his share of the gold that is to be stored away in the government vaults.

(Titus produces the papers which Karl Hanno caused him to sign with regard to his share of the gold. The papers are drawn up, signed and ratified by all parties, and delivered over to Karl Hanno. Exit King.)

Premier.—That closes the deal as far as the papers are concerned. The loan is yet to be furnished. And the expedition will be ready to start at 6

o'clock in the morning. The king left a note here with me requesting you (*Karl H and Titus*) to remain here for a while; he has something yet to communicate to you.

Titus.—Thank you for your candid assistance in our transactions with the king. We are men to be depended upon and we will furnish the War-Loan if the expedition does not fail to bring all the gold hither. We shall see you again and remember you.

Prmier.—Adieu! (*Exit Karl Hanno and Titus remain in the Waiting Parlor.*)

Titus.—I am glad that we can be to ourselves again. But could it be possible for heaven to change its face so suddenly? Things transpire as though it were a dream. Compare this moment with that when first I met you at the edge of the forest alongside of the Mountain-Meadow sitting on a bundle of evergreen and craving for hope; compare this moment with that when in sympathy and manly love I endeavored to persuade you to follow me in the pursuance of our earthly welfare. And to-day.—What a change! We can only stagger at the high-handed dispensation of things so witnessed by us during these few days. It is too much, too bewildering, too overwhelming to go over the field again and dwell on the all wonderful events that have followed one after the other as though it were a dramatic play with a fixed plot. No! No! Never! No, never will I again believe that man is the maker of his own destiny. For these are things of an order higher than man is able to dictate. It is the Higher Ordinance set forth by the Maker of all Things and over which no man has power to exercise his influence or to shape his destiny, but of which he is simply the actor in the drama. I behold now how

the consequence of a small cause can change the whole course of the human life. Had we been successful in our first trip to Crystal City, the course of our life would have been entirely different and we would not be here under circumstances like these, treating with kings and sovereigns. Karl, you are right in it. You are the Child of Destiny.

Karl H.—We made a good bargain, don't you think?

Titus.—Yes! and secured further advantages still. What accounts for the development of your great businesslike capacity?

Karl H.—What accounts for it? Ah! I never had a chance to show my businesslike capacity. My faculties are the same as before and while they had nothing to do in the past, they find now employment. For me to be successful is to be wide awake to secure victory. I saw that the king and the government were hard pressed in raising the War-Loan and I simply took advantage of the business. I suppose they know it.

Titus.—Strange if they wouldn't. But you have given your act of shrewdness an innocent appearance so that it did not touch the king's vanity. That was good tactics.

Karl H.—O yes, now that we are in the saddle, we shall know how to ride. Just wait! I think I learnt something: Now whenever we want to gain a good point in dealing with our patrons, we must hide our sharklike keenness and appear innocent, and by so doing we will get their confidence. But that would not be honest, would it?

Titus.—What's the difference? They do the same. Weight against weight to make the scale balance; I find nothing wrong in that. Remember the laws of nature!

Karl H.—That's right. We must abide by the laws of nature not to suffer an evil consequence. We can always be honest and fair to others but we shall not make the mistake to give others gold, when they pay us back in copper.

Servant (opens the door).—The king sends word not to get out of patience to wait. (*Exit,*)

Karl H.—Now I should just like to know what we are here waiting for.

Titus.—Lord knows what is brewing in the king's head. Things are very surprising, that's what the premier found out, and you know the king has a daughter.

Karl H.—The king has a daughter, yes; but let us get our \$700,000,000 first, then we can speculate on such things.

Titus.—And you know she is the only natural heir and will succeed her father on the throne. It seems to me I can read the future, Karl; you may hit it.

Karl H.—Then, what do you read? What do you see?

Titus.—I see this: When you shall have furnished the War-Loan of \$425,000,000 you will cause universal admiration; being single, and not married, the king will take an interest in you as regards your future wife; he may favor a union, and give you his daughter in marriage. Presuming that this shall be the case, we can further presume that when his daughter, your supposed future wife, shall succeed to the throne, she will abdicate in favor of her husband, and you will be proclaimed king. Through his spies the king knows by this time that you are single yet and not married. And I think there is something brewing in the king's mind that will justify my prediction.

Karl H.—Heavens! Is there no limit to my fortune? It is too much to swallow it all at once.

Titus.—Oh, it may take years yet before all this will happen. But the trouble just now is you haven't seen the king's daughter to know how she will please you and you don't know when you will see her. Of course, if she isn't anything that will make you happy you would want neither her nor her throne.

Karl H.—Who tells you all these things? A wonderful predictor, so you are. But your predictions have always come true by unusual methods, and such things may happen again. And if ever I should get to be king, be sure, you shall be my premier. Of course I know nothing yet of the king's daughter, whether she will suit me or I her. And worst of all, her Royal Highness cannot be approached by men without a title. Can't you think of a scheme to manage this?

Titus.—You already have a title. You are the "Child of Destiny. All other titles are of no avail to you.

Karl H.—And that will do me. (*The door is opened by a servant*).

Servant.—The king sends word not to get out of patience to wait.

Titus.—Well, what are we kept here waiting for?

Servant.—Don't ask me. (*Exit*).

Karl H.—Confound such business as that is. How independent and curt. I don't think they are much struck on our looks here in the capital. But there is one thing, Titus, we can well afford to be independent too—you know.

Titus.—I know, I know. Weight against weight to keep the balance of the scales. Just wait till we get the 35,000,000 ounces of gold, nothing will balance us. Don't you think that will make us

feel a little dignified, too, then? You know what I mean.

Karl H.—Yes, I know what you mean, but I will tell you after while; not now. You know things are surprising and something must turn up pretty soon that will lift the veil of mysterious doubts as regards the king's daughter; if not I shall call the whole affair a royal conundrum and be done with it.

Titus.—O, I wouldn't be quite so fast as that. I would give things a little time for development and not set my sail until I know from what direction the wind blows. Pick your roses after they are budded out, not before.

Karl H.—And he has something to communicate to us yet, the king said, as though he would not dare tell. In my estimation this must be either something very good or something very bad.

Titus.—No, I don't think it is that, for that would be beneath the dignity of the king. But whatever the purpose is I think it is something that entered the king's mind during the last moment of our business transaction, and therefore it can neither be a scheme nor anything so very important; it is perhaps something only of an incidental nature that he wants to bring in yet in the matter of the expedition, about which he is now having a consultation with his advisers. He may consider it a risky thing to send out an expedition so far away incurring enormous expenses.

Karl H.—Ah! then it is surely this: The king is in doubt about our having discovered such an amount of gold in a chasm, and he thinks that the whole scheme is not genuine, and if that is the case we might get into a muss where we would like to be

out of. It was a good thing that we kept our mouths shut about spirits having had a hand in it.

Titus.—You bet your life that was a good thing. For such things stand no show when it comes right down to business. But what's the difference? Everybody knows, or ought to know his own business and if you are sure and positive that on such and such a day the dragons will bring up said amount of gold out of the abyss, what's the difference how you got in possession of this knowledge? Well, yes we shall see.

Karl H.—Hum! Hum! I consider it an insult to question the truth. Whether the dragons will bring up the gold on the day stated, is a matter of privacy purely resting with us, and is nobody's business. But I would like to know what the king keeps us here waiting for. (*The door opens.*)

Servant.—The king sends word not to get uneasy, but have patience to wait.

Karl H.—You tell your king the measure of patience is just about exhausted.

Servant.—"Yes!" (*Exit.*)

Karl H.—He doesn't even show respect. I am sure he is acting under instructions. He wouldn't be allowed to do that. Hum! Hum!

Titus.—Well this is our first experience at the royal court and it has begun with a riddle. But I am getting more interested in the game now than at first; let us follow it up and see how it will turn out. I am sure the king must have a purpose in view whatever it is. I am prepared for a surprise.

Karl H.—Presume we do, but that will keep us in ignorance of not knowing what is going on, and as business men we cannot afford to do that. Precious moments are wasted when we have none to spare.

Besides that we should know what we are here waiting for so as to be prepared for what is to come. Things are surprising, but surprises are not always pleasant, especially in times like these. Remember that!

Titus.—And lest you forget, I say it again: I am more interested in this game now than at first. A surprise! Remember.

Karl H.—Well then I hope it will not be what was guessed at, namely: The expedition. For; after having gone to so much trouble, and after having the thing so far along I do hate to see our scheme here in this capital go to collapse. Do you understand why I am getting out of patience? (*Door opens.*)

Servant.—The king sends word when the measure of patience is exhausted, to fill it again and not to get out of patience to wait.

Karl H.—You tell your king there will soon be two patients here.

Servant.—"Hum yea?" (*Exit.*)

Titus.—Now I got it: That's the clown; yes, that's the clown of the court, and I think the king is sending him to prepare us for something funny and we need not be a bit uneasy about the expedition affair. I have heard before that at times our king is just as funny as he can be, I mean, full of jokes and gayety enough to amuse anybody. And as for company, he is just fine.

Karl H.—Why, he didn't look to be that way.

Titus.—No, not out in public. As a sovereign he has to maintain a high degree of dignity. You know that.

Karl H.—This and many things more, are not what I am presently concerned in. For me to accomplish success is to be wide awake to secure victory. There

was a time when my capability did avail me nothing as destiny was set against me; but now, after having become the Child of Destiny, I am the "Man in the Harness". Straightforward to my purpose is henceforth the policy of mine. No lingering here, no hands in pockets; it is now the Man of the Hour who enters upon the scene. The 35,000,000 ounces of gold must first be secured before anything else can be thought of, and I reject and despise any speculation made as regards my future wife, or a throne, or what is brewing in the king's mind; all that talk is not worth the breath required for its utterance. But let me be in control of \$600,000,000, kings and sovereigns shall feel my power and do me homage. Even this is the Promise of Destiny. Confound the business, anyhow. What are we here waiting for? I am getting sick and tired. (*Door opens.*)

Servant.—The king sends word whenever you get sick and tired, he will send you the doctor, but just have a little more patience to wait. He will be fatherly to you.

Karl H.—You tell your king, the measure of patience is exhausted, and we are out of patience.

Servant.—Yes, your honor. He will be fatherly to you. Just have patience. (*Exit.*)

Karl H.—Now what do you make of that? Confounded wreckerty, crackerty, Mephistopheles; I will give him just five minutes yet and pull out of here. What do you say?

Titus.—Something has got to be done, for these manoeuvrings of the king are coming in so thick on us that I can't explain them away any more. Still I am eager to see the curiosity of the day, and I would hate to throw up the game now, for we may never

be able to remedy the mistake. You know it's the king.

Karl H.—And he will be fatherly to us. How silly!

Titus—O, well, that's a king's style, nothing is meant by it. Karl, remember: Not so very long ago you would have been glad, and you would have considered it a high honor to be a waiter on the king, and although things have changed so mightily, you can nevertheless be independent from others. Remember that.

Karl H.—But remember: I am the Child of Destiny, and I have nothing to depend upon but the promise communicated to me that solemn night in that farm house by the grand display of a number of visions, that the time is at hand when I shall be blessed, not only with a fortune, but with all that in which I shall see all of my wishes answered. This, and the laws given me by which to abide, I shall never forget nor lose sight of no matter how discouraging things may look in the future, and there is where I have invested my patience. Confounded; let us pull out. (*Door opens*).

Servant.—May your high honors be prepared for a Reception Party. Thank you. (*Exit*).

(*Enter—Four gentlemen and three young ladies by a prelude of music*).

Reception Party.—To your highest honor, Karl Hanno and Titus: Under a royal order we are sent to accompany you to the royal palace, to dine with the royal family at a Reception Dinner given by the king in your honor. (*They all go*).

SECTION 4.

(SCENE—*The scene is the same as in the previous section—in the interior of the parliament building. The dignitaries of the court, and of the cabinet, the principal officers of the state, and a jam of public audience, all are assembled in the parliament hall and are presided over by the premier who is seated immediately before the throne. The premier has hardly called the assembly to order, when soon after deafening cheers and the thunder of a thousand cannons announcing the arrival of the expedition. One thousand wagons loaded with pure, solid gold ready for use, equal to \$700,000,000, is under control of Karl Hanno and Titus, out of which Karl Hanno will now furnish the War-Loan of \$425,000,000.*)

Premier—The assembly is called to order. Fellow Citizens: As is generally believed the expedition is approaching, and its arrival is hourly expected. This morning a herald arrived here stating that he left the expedition yesterday morning; that all went well and that they were but 60 miles away from here. This is good news. At the same time a message came in from the front stating that the enemy were repulsed and dislodged from his strong position.

—Also that a naval engagement had occurred during which two of the enemy's vessels were captured. This is good to start on. But our further success depends as much upon our means as upon our brave soldiers and able generals (*deafening cheers and cannons' roar*). Citizens! That means the arrival of the expedition: Let him come! He, the furnisher of the War-Loan. We cannot do without money. Let him come, he that shall furnish the means to further the national cause to carry on the war and force the victory.

(Karl Hanno and Titus enter. They are met with great cheers.)

Premier—The king welcomes you, ye men of the nation, Karl Hanno and Titus, and let it be known that your honor, Karl Hanno, shall be highly rewarded by the nation at every opportunity for the great service rendered to the country without a precedent in the form of the War-Loan. Your honor may now proceed to foreclose the transaction. *(Cheers.)*

Karl H.—His Excellency, premier, may hereby take notice that Karl Hanno and Titus, have safely returned from the expedition; having also effected the transportation of the 35,000,000 ounces of pure, solid gold ready for use, amounting to \$700,000,000, of which 21,250,000 ounces of gold, \$425,000,000 is hereby delivered over into the hands of the government as a War-Loan; 13,750,000 ounces, the remainder of the 35,000,000 ounces of gold, are stored away in the government vaults for safe-keeping and are the treasures of Karl Hanno and Titus, of which 5,000,000 ounces of gold is the share of the latter. Both have full control of their treasures while in said storage as is stipulated in the Articles of Agreement. His Excellency is requested to ratify papers showing that the War-Loan has been furnished.

(The papers are duly ratified and delivered to Karl Hanno.)

Premier.—The transaction of the War-Loan is declared as finally settled.

Premier to Karl Hanno (aside).—The king has sent me a note requesting me to tell you that his Majesty wishes you not to leave the Capital yet as his Majesty wishes to communicate to you a matter of some private affair. You and your friend Titus may go into the Waiting Parlor to await the wishes of the king.

(All leave. Karl Hanno and Titus repair to the Waiting Parlor to await the wishes of the king.)

Karl H.—Now I have found relief. And now we can talk on the subject of my future wife, as now I am in control of a fortune such as was never witnessed or enjoyed by any mortal.

Titus.—Karl: Ha! Ha! It seems we can't get rid of the king any more. It gives me lots of thinking. Events develope rapidly, and as I have said before starting out on the expedition I say it yet, that there is something brooding in the king's mind that might hatch a new chicken to your fortune. The king is taking an interest in you favoring the plan of a union and will give you his daughter in marriage. Now you'll see. She of course will succeed her father on the throne, and mark! before you know it, she will abdicate in favor of her husband, and you will be proclaimed "King of the Hobbies". Of course all this is the consequence of the War-Loan. Since you have done so great a service for the country in the hour of need the king, no doubt, considers it right and proper for you to be connected with the highest interests of the king, and the country as well. This is only a logical consequence. Laugh, if you please; the chicken is hatching all the same.

Karl H.—Ha! Ha! If there is a new chicken hatching to my fortune, then, what will you call it when the chicken is growing into a big hen? Explain!

Titus.—I have already explained it. Presumption is that you will marry the king's daughter, the successor on the throne, this I call the New Chicken to your fortune; she will abdicate her throne in favor of her husband and you will be proclaimed King of the Hobbies, and that I call the Grown Hen. Laugh again, if you please.

Karl H.—Ha! Ha! Ha! I think you are reaching too far over the railing, Titus; you might go overboard. Don't you know that our good old king is but seven years older than I am, and that he might outlive me; and don't you know that I am nearly twice as old as is the king's daughter? These things do not compare well.

Titus.—Do not compare well, no! and it will be all the more wonderful when it will happen. In the first case, heaven can change its face in one day; and in the second case, remember that you are the Child of Destiny and you are destined to see wonderful things.

Karl H.—Yes! you are a most wonderful predictor and it may all happen, but as I have said before, your predictions have come true by methods and ways different from what was supposed. One is tickled to see how enthusiastic and sincere you seem to be in your own fancy and I cannot see really what good grounds you have to make good your predictions.

Titus.—Ah! you remember well the day before we started out on the expedition how the king kept us waiting for something that bothered our heads to guess on, and to our sweetest surprise—"a Royal Reception"—to dine with the royal family and in the very presence of the king's daughter was the outcome of that play. What reason had the king for this?

Karl H.—Perhaps it was all smoke and nothing in it. But what reason did he have, and how do you explain it?

Titus.—It is only a logical consequence. Facts will tell, not smoke. Having received a royal invitation to dine with the royal family and in presence of the princess, the heiress to the throne, the king is too

well balanced in mind not to know how all that would be interpreted. And what under the sun, why was that done in presence of the princess?

Karl H.—O, I presume they were all delighted over to see the greatest financiers in the world. That, that, that's it!

Titus.—Ha! Ha! I don't agree; logically it is different: Women do not care so much for great financiers, and a young lady of her royal type all the less. But I think this: The king had already contemplated a scheme, and of course the king wanted to give his daughter a chance to see whether she would find in you her suitor, and this chance was sought in the Royal Reception. This also gave you a chance of the same kind, as you would want to be suited likewise. It now followed that in you she found her suitor, and during the time of our expedition plans were made to effect a union after our return, and after the War-Loan was furnished, the king has requested you not to leave the capital yet but to await his wishes in a matter of a private affair. That's plain enough. And now the chicken is hatching. It's so! It's so! It is so!

Karl H.—Ha! Ha! And she was so pretty, too. So sweet, so graceful, so agreeable, so modest and so lovely that, wherever she was, there seemed to be sunshine. It must be amusing to see how great men, after so many deeds of heroism, can give way to love and become so little.

Titus.—So then you mean to say that you love her, do you not?

Karl H.—O well, yes; and if the whole scheme should dissolve in smoke I wish that it had never happened.

Titus.—Well, well; it didn't get you that bad, dit it?

Karl H.—Well it should not, but if it did it shall never be found out. Oh, there would be no harm in it, provided we have guessed the king's plan. All the world would call us champion detectives, but I am afraid of what is said, 'counting the chickens before they are hatched out.'

Titus.—Ha! Ha! Ha! a fine farce: Wouldn't they rub their hands over it if such a thing would happen to the greatest financiers in the world? But never mind, if we really do count the chickens before they are hatched out, we can say this much; at any rate they are hatching.

Karl H.—Good enough, and I wish the king would hurry on with his wishes. I am prepared to see the Logical consequence come true as rapidly as possible according to your conclusion. I am getting tired of waiting.

Titus.—And I on my part, I do expect nothing else than to see the king's premier come in and lay the king's plan before you as regards a union with his daughter, Mourine II., the heiress to the throne. Remember the time when the king kept us waiting here before and I guessed on the king's plan precisely the same as I do now and for some reason dropped the idea of such being the king's plan, and don't you know I was right about it? Why should I not be right about it this time? Remember the Royal Reception. It is the keynote to the whole song.

Karl H.—O, I believe it myself now, and the king has been very candid to us and has treated us in such a way that his plans could not be mistaken under any ordinary observation. Only I think this: The good thing is coming too easy. Good things do not come so easy.

Titus.—What do you care? and what difference does

that make? All the better for you and us both. Now when the premier shall step in and lay the king's plan before you as regards giving you his daughter in marriage who will succeed him on the throne, you will accept the proposition and the thing will soon be over with. You will marry the king's daughter right off and as soon as something happens to the king and he dies, your wife will ascend the throne and as I think, she will abdicate soon after in your favor, and you will be proclaimed king of the Hobbies. Don't you see?

(*Aside.*).—Well, now comes the premier. Be careful what you say, Karl!

Premier (Enters).—Gentlemen!

Karl H.—Yes your honor!

Premier.—I am charged by his Majesty to communicate to your honor, Karl Hanno, his royal wishes as regards a matter of a private affair.

Karl Hanno (Delighted).—Yes your honor. Something good?

Premier.—Good for the king.—It has been the wishes of the king that his royal daughter, Mourine II, heiress to the throne, should be given in marriage to the Prince of Crain, the Hobby Treasurer, the ceremonies of the wedding to take place on the 17th day of this month, June. (*Karl looks serious, so does Titus.*) Now as regards the marriage of the Prince of Crain to Mourine II, daughter of the king, there is one obstacle in the way of it, which, if not removed, may prove serious to the Prince of Crain. The matter stands thus: The Prince of Crain had the bad fortune to become the president of a vast undertaking of a new mining enterprise. He had invested all the money that he

had himself in addition to heavy loans besides, amounting to in all \$24,000,000 and was partly secured by the mines themselves. But after the mines had been fairly worked they inclined to exhaustion and the mining stock fell to a minimum, consequently, the money so invested in the enterprise became almost a total loss to the investors and especially so to the Prince of Crain. This renders the condition of the Prince of Crain very uncomfortable, as he is now involved in debts that he is never able to pay, while his creditors rush in on him and furiously demand their money. His majesty king is in sympathy with the prince because of his misfortune, and because of the contemplated marriage of the prince and his royal daughter. The king, in order to avoid public scandals, wishes to have this matter settled as quietly and as speedily as possible. His Majesty therefore wishes the financial assistance of your honor in the form of furnishing a loan to the king to the amount of \$24,000,000 to set straight his intended son-in-law. Shall the wishes of the king have compliance?

Karl H.—Very obediently shall the wishes of the king be complied with and have the financial assistance of my honor in the form of furnishing his Majesty a loan of \$24,000,000; rate of interest 2 per cent; secured by government bonds.

Premier.—Very graciously will his Majesty accept the offer of your honor, but as to the security of government bonds, I have no authority to effect a loan until I shall have consulted the king, and you friends may have the honor to patiently wait here yet a few moments and amuse yourselves as best you may until I shall return with an answer from the king. Adieu! (*Exit.*)

(*Karl and Titus laughing.*)

Titus.—Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha! There now we have it high and low.

Karl H.—Ha? Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha! Laugh it off, now, it's the best we can do. Ha! Ha! Ha! "To set straight his intended son-in-law." Don't that beat you? Things are surprising. Hum! Hum! Hum!

Titus.—Things are surprising; never as is expected. Ha! Ha! Ha!

Karl H.—Didn't I tell you how great men can give way to love and become so little? It is simply amusing.

Titus.—Such is life.

Karl H.—Such is love.

Titus.—Then you still love her?

Karl H.—Why, more than ever, and I wouldn't know it had it not been now for the reverse of the thing. Now that she is lost to me, I do really find out how much I love her. But why in Sam's conformity could not I have been spared this unnecessary trouble? Why did we act so silly over the affair and make fools of ourselves? Confound the Royal Reception, the cause of all evil. Well, it's a good thing nobody will ever know it. It will stay with us. Crackerty; wreckerty; Mephistopheles.

Titus.—It will stay with us. But we were too fast.

Karl H.—Yes, and too silly. We have made fools of ourselves.

Titus.—Oh, yes, men will get silly sometimes, too and make fools of themselves. But who under the sun would have thought differently, and who would not have made a case out of it such as we did? Surely this is staggering all logic, and is even staggering my senses.

Karl H.—But such a thing is not new; it is as old as the existence of men and women, and is occurring as frequently as the days come along. The young man, meeting with a young lady striking his fancy, is inclined to make much out of little: Every motion, every act, every wink of her eye, and every favorable word coming forth from the admired beauty, is taken as an inducement especially meant for him. In the next moment he discovers that he was mistaken, and also that he was making a fool of himself. But as I say: Such a thing is not new, for such is life, and such is love.

Titus.—But I repeat the fact. Wouldn't they rub their hands over it if they would find out how the greatest financiers in the world made fools of themselves over a young woman?

Karl H.—Wouldn't they, though? But if they would rub their hands over us, at any rate, we should have as much reason to rub our hands over them as they would have over us. Just think: The king was obliged to do me homage and ask me for my financial assistance "to set straight his intended son-in-law" in the face of his plight. That won't be all yet: I may yet levy hard terms on the king before furnishing the loan and we may have the satisfaction of rubbing our hands over a pretty royal humiliation long after they get through with us. I just tell you our mighty wealth has placed us in a wonderfully good position.

Titus.—Hasn't it, though? And we will just be keen enough to drive everything to the wall. We've got them! Yes, we've got them. Only one thing that I begrudge: We haven't got them where we

want them to be, but that was not our fault, as we cannot command the hand of destiny: For you will not get the one you love, and my prediction, that you would be king, has gone to the wall. Hum——!

Karl H.—What's the difference? For I shall see at least One moment in life in which I shall see all of my wishes answered. And I do not for One moment lament the disappointment. I am already king: I am King of Finances. Kings and sovereigns do me homage and bow to the power of my wealth such as was never before witnessed by any mortal. Why, just think! I control \$600,000,000, enough to buy a kingdom of my own; and what need have I to lament over a thing that did not go to suit me? After all, mind you, there are thirteen days yet before the marriage of Mourine II. and the Prince of Crain will take place, and many leaves may turn over yet. Everything comes to him who waits, and I am the Child of Destiny. Now am I on the right track again. Can you see?

Titus.—On the right track again; Karl Hanno, yes! You are indeed the Child of Destiny. You are guided by things other than those of the Lower Order, and your conviction is truly not that of an earthly agency. Were I but fortunate with these heavenly things in trusting to the Blessing of All Good, would not I be also happy?

Karl H.—And you shall be happy as even I shall be, for such is the theme of my wishes and it is included in the Promise of Destiny that I shall see at least One moment in life in which I shall see all of my wishes answered and no matter which way things may go, or how discouraging the moments may be, all is under the sway of Destiny,

which cannot be overruled by circumstances of the Lower Order. And as for us, we are the Actors on the Stage of Life. (*Premier enters.*)

Premier.—Gentlemen!

Karl H.—Yes, your Honor?

Premier.—In reply to the conditions made by your honor, Karl Hanno, regards the loan, the king graciously requests you to come to his royal private chamber to have an understanding about terms and conditions regards the loan.

(*Karl Hanno leaves Titus and the premier in the Waiting Room.*)

Premier.—Confound the business. I am just worried to death about all affairs. I wish the Prince of Crain would manage his own business.

Titus.—So then we shall have a royal wedding pretty soon, shall we not, your Honor?

Premier.—That's right, sir! And I do not see why such must take place just now, while the country is at war. There must be something pressing in the matter, or else I do not understand it—

Titus.—Pressing? O, yes! Money matters are always pressing. How is his Majesty fixed on government bonds?

Premier.—How fixed? The king cannot give government bonds to secure the loan unless he is scheming on something. And that, I think, is his object in having a secret understanding with Karl Hanno. I understand Karl Hanno is single yet?

Titus.—Karl Hanno is single yet. And what of it?

Premier.—Nothing at all. But is it not astonishing how a man got possession of such mighty fortune? And so young yet, too.

Titus.—O, not so young. How old do you think?

Premier.—O, perhaps twenty-eight or thirty. Princess

Mourine II. at the Royal Reception guessed him to be about twenty-four or twenty-five, as she is twenty-four herself.

Titus.—She must have admired him?

Premier.—Perhaps she did. But I am afraid the king will get his hands tied up, for Karl Hanno is full of schemes to secure good bargains and to make acute terms.

Titus.—Not at all. He is too good for that, even had he the chance to do it. But I think if he stays much longer in this capital he will get rid of all his treasures. And then what?

Premier.—And then we shall all be his debtors. But excuse me; I am called off again. I'm worried to death, confound it. (*Exit. Karl Hanno enters*)

Karl H.—I've done it now—

Titus.—What did you do?

Karl H.—I tied up the king.

Titus.—What! tied him up by that loan?

Karl H.—That's right.

Titus.—That's what the premier was afraid about, but I let on you were not sharp enough to do that. You know we learnt something: To secure a good point we must appear innocent, so as to avoid suspicion of being sharpers. You know—Hanno!

Karl H.—And what about the premier?

Titus.—He is worried to death.

Karl H.—Nothing to us. What did he say?

Titus.—Incidentally he said that Mourine II. at the Royal Reception guessed your age twenty-four years, the same as her age. That's sweet, isn't it?

Karl H.—Is it possible!

Titus.—Yes. But he was careful enough not to speak on that subject.

Karl H.—“All the samey.” But what about the Prince of Crain?

Titus.—Prince of Crain? There must be something pressing in the matter, the premier thought, or else he didn't understand it. But what about you and the king?

Karl H.—What about me and the king? We have come to a secret understanding and it developed into this— (*Premier enters.*)

Premier.—Gentlemen!

Karl H.—Yes, your Honor!

Premier.—I am now authorized by his Majesty to effect the loan of \$24,000,000 furnished by your honor, Karl Hanno, upon conditions and terms as afore-said, to-wit: Rate of interest, 2 per cent; secured by government bonds; term of expiration, payable on or before the close of the present war. Papers are ready for ratification.

(*Karl Hanno signs the papers and the deal is closed.*)

Premier.—Gentlemen, you are further requested to remain here a moment or two, to await a message from the king. Adieu! (*Exit.*)

Karl H.—Well, if this is not intended to beat Mephistopheles, I give it up.

Titus.—Be still! This is our game. What's the difference? We can wait; for us to strike luck, is to wait and remain here in this capital for awhile yet. I believe this is a great game, and we must play it out let it cost what it will. We'll get the best of them; now you'll see.

Karl H.—It seems there is no end to the king's plan. Perhaps you can see farther than I can, or—

Titus.—I think there is something crooked yet to be discovered. What business has the king to enter upon a secret understanding in the matter of the loan? If the king is not scheming on us, I claim

the chickens are still hatching. What do you think about it?

Karl H.—I don't think so. I think there is nothing more left to scheme on us, or at least not on me; for after thirteen days the king's daughter will be given in marriage to the Prince of Crain and that will be the end of it, and I consider it just foolish to bother my head about that any more. And what is there left to scheme on?

Titus.—Nothing at all—nothing that I can see. All there is left for us is that heaven can change its face in one day. Remember that! But what about the secret understanding between you and the king?

Karl H. (aside)—I will tell you after while. (*Messenger enters.*)

Messenger.—Gentlemen of high honor: (*Karl and Titus bow.*) May you hereby take notice, Karl Hanno and Titus, that on the 17th day of this month will be celebrated the Royal Wedding between the daughter of the king, Mourine II., and the Prince of Crain, and according to the wishes of his Majesty you gentlemen are hereby cordially invited to attend the celebration of this Royal Wedding. In addition to this, you gentlemen are further requested to remain here yet a moment or so to await tokens of High Honors which will be bestowed upon you, Karl Hanno, by the king himself, who will be here escorted by his Royal Family. Remember: just a moment! (*Exit.*)

Karl H.—Just a moment, remember! This will leave us no time to talk on a subject. Of course, these moments are generally very long.

Titus.—And the whole royal family, too; and Mourine II., too—

Karl H.—Yes, and perhaps the Prince of Crain, too, as he now belongs to the royal family—

Titus.—Yes! And then the invitation to the royal wedding.

Karl H.—And yes, then the invitation to the wedding of the one I love. How offensive that will be to my feelings!

Titus.—And yes, if you can read this “Mene Tekel” of love you had better go to Babylon.

(Enter—The king; the queen; the king's daughter, Maurine II., heiress to the throne; Prince of Crain, her intended husband; the Court of Honor, constituting four young ladies, and five gentlemen, including the premier. All performance assume the style of etiquette that is customary at the constitutional courts of Europe.)

King.—Gentlemen, Karl Hanno and Titus:

—Your king and sovereign at this moment is graciously disposed to you, and I am moved to express personally to you my deep gratitude. With regard to your patriotic devotion to your king and sovereign and to the country as well, having reference of course to your having furnished the War-Loan, I your king and sovereign, do hereby confer upon you, Karl Hanno, the title of “Karl Hanno, Prince of Finances.” Further: I, your king and sovereign, do hereby call you into the membership of the “King’s Privy Counsel,” and also into the membership of the “Court of Honor.”

—You have now succeeded to the highest rank and honors in the mighty kingdom of the Hobbies, as these honors and the title give you access to all political ranks, power, and the free access to the royal court, and places you among the first men of the kingdom.

Karl H.—His Majesty, my king and sovereign:

—I, Karl Hanno, do hereby fully acknowledge the gracious disposition of his Majesty toward me; and

I do hereby very obediently accept the title, and the membership in the "King's Privy Counsel," and in that of the "Court of Honor," but, owing to the unbounded friendship existing between me and Titus, guaranteed and confirmed by mutual pledges, and lived up to by our faith in the past, as we still intend to do in the future, I cannot for one moment enjoy this high rank with any degree of content or satisfaction, if by this manner of act I shall so divorce myself from my friend, who is worth everything to me. I therefore present my sincere wishes to his Majesty either to be relieved of these high honors, or to extend same title, honors and privileges to Titus, as in our combined efforts in life we cannot be separated. Shall my wishes find approval?

King.—They shall: For an act of this kind, since rather than to be guilty of a breach of faith you are ready to sacrifice title, high honors and privileges, commands my royal respect, and I can only see in this your act a proof of your honesty to be true to your pledges.

—Titus, in unbounded friendship to Karl Hanno, I, your king and sovereign, do hereby extend same title, honor and privileges bestowed upon Karl Hanno to you. In token of this receive my hand!
(Titus and Karl Hanno shake hands with the king, whereupon all others leave, but the king, the queen, Maurine II., the Prince of Crain, Karl Hanno and Titus remain.)

King.—Gentlemen: *(Concerning Karl Hanno and Titus.)*

—Our little assembly here is now unofficial, and therefore is strictly private. All restrictions with regard to royal etiquette which is customary at the royal court, and burdensome, too, in free society,

are now suspended, and before you gentlemen are ready to leave this national capital and return to your homes let us heartily indulge in the free conversation marked with the essentials of closer society. You know kings are the same as other men, and why should they not feel as other men and do as other men? I do appreciate a free moment like this to give the lofty mind free exercise, and do not despise sometimes to be jolly. Of course, we hope that this gathering here will not be the last; on the contrary, we hope to see all of your friends and relatives soon residing with us here in this capital. In closer society they call me "Uncle Billy."

Karl H.—Thank you! thank you! Uncle Billy: We are familiar with that name, and you are just the man that we are looking for. Uncle Billy, do you smoke?

Uncle Billy (king).—Certainly not when I run out of—
Titus.—Uncle Billy, have a cigar!

Uncle Billy.—Thank you! Thank you that you have one to spare. Do you drink wine and whisky?

Karl H. and Titus.—Certainly not—only when it is the very strongest. (*Laughter. The steward enters with wine and other drinks and they put up in toasts.*)

Uncle Billy.—Gentlemen— (*Titus.*) Not Gentlemen; In closer society they call me "T-boy"— (*Karl Hanno.*) And me they call "Honey-boy."

Uncle Billy.—Well, boys, here is good luck! (*Drinks.*)

Karl H. and Titus.—Would have no other kind. (*Shouts.*) Hurrah for good luck! Hurrah for Uncle Billy! (*All drink.*)

Mourine II (aside).—I thought there was some honey about Karl Hanno, mother.

Prince of Crain.—What's that? Daisy!— O, nothing! nothing!

Uncle Billy--Boys! here is my wife; you know her, of course. I call her "my petty boss"-- (*Queen.*) And him "my Hobby boss."

Titus to Karl (*aside*).--Didn't I tell you the king is jolly?

**Titus*.--All sorts of things: Tee and honey, wine and whisky. In the next century we will drink beer.

Queen.--Ah! Mohamet says in his Koran we must not drink beer.

Uncle Billy.--That's meant only for common folks. They cannot afford it.

Prince of Crain to Mourine II. (*aside*).--So you think there is some honey about Karl Hanno?

Prince of Crain.--Mother queen, your daughter likes honey.

Titus.--Well, here is the Honey boy (*pointing to Karl Hanno*).

Prince of Crain.--Here Honey boy, a few days more she will be my wife and I shall call her Daisy--she likes a common name.

Karl Hanno.--Thank you gracious ladies; I have met you before.

Prince of Crain.--And your wife?

Karl Hanno.--And my wife? Ha! Ha! That's a bluff. I will never see the day.

Prince of Crain.--What! The greatest financier in the world should not be able to get a wife? Get out!

Karl Hanno.--Yes or no, or just as you want it: Women do not care so much for great financiers.

Prince of Crain.--Yes or no, or just as you want to have it: I think they do, and if not, why is it then that my Daisy girl here is so much struck on you?

Daisy Girl (Mourine II.)--I beg, Prince of Crain, I beg your jealousy.

Karl Hanno.--Now have I arrived at the end of my wit and I can say no more. Let the language of silence tell what my tongue is not able to utter--
(*A private message comes in and is handed to the Prince of Crain whereupon he immediately leaves the room.*)

Mourine II.--Did you notice? The Prince looked quite serious after reading the message.

Queen.--My child, I should think he would have told you what it was.

Mourine.--No, he does not tell me anything. He is not like a lover. The Prince, in my estimation, has of late manifested ways not satisfactory to love.

Queen.--My child, I presume the many high honors bestowed upon Karl Hanno has much to do with it.

Karl Hanno.--And here, my royal friends, if I am anything in your estimation, you will pardon me in disclosing to you the simple fact that I have fallen a victim to Mourine II. Again you will pardon me when stating to you that the Royal Reception given us was cause of much misleading speculation with regard to a connection with the royal house, but which, after this became clear, I consider now as a thing of the past. And although it was misleading, my love disappointed, I myself have contributed toward the furtherance of the marriage of the Prince of Crain in furnishing the loan of \$24,000,000 and by so doing I have removed the last obstacle out of the way. But as I have said I consider them now as things of the past, hoping never again to meet with such disappointment. (*All are moved.*)

Uncle Billy.—And you could do all this without betraying your love? What a deed of heroism. But as you have said: They are considered now as things of the past, as within a few days my daughter will be given in marriage to the Prince of Crain, plans, arrangements, and everything are so well fixed, and everything so complete that by no means, and by no ordinary event can the marriage be interfered with.

Mourine II.—The Prince of Crain has chilled my love. The high honors bestowed upon Karl Hanno have made him a jealous lover. I can say no more. Let the Language of Silence tell what my tongue is not able to utter.

Uncle Billy.—My daughter, my child: If there were any reasons to be found against the Prince of Crain, or any accusation whatever against the performance of his duty, I would, in the capacity of king and sovereign, and as your royal father, declare the engagement "Null and Void."

—But as matters stand now to do such a thing without any reason to justify it, would be a breach of faith against royalty, as well as a breach of promise. So the engagement must stand, and the marriage cannot be interfered with. My daughter, think of your duty, the dignity of royalty. You like the Prince of Crain, I know.

Titus.—Heaven can change its face in one moment.

(*Prince of Crain enters. He looks serious and frightened, but is silent.*)

Mourine II.—What is the matter Prince? You look so serious.

Prince of Crain.—Let the Language of Silence tell what my tongue is not able to utter.

—(*Sheriff enters.*)

Sheriff—His majesty king: By the Chief of Magistrate I am authorized so cause the arrest of the Prince of Crain wherever found, on the ground of his having committed a national offense against the state. He, the Prince of Crain, has made himself guilty of an embezzlement of \$24,000,000 of national money used up in the New Mining Enterprise while being the Hobby Treasurer.

—Prince of Crain, you are under my arrest, and commanded to follow me. (*All are astounded*).

(*Prince of Crain is taken away by the sheriff*).

King.—So is the Prince of Crain a criminal before the law and the engagement of Mourine II. is hereby declared 'Null and Void' for a better choice.

(*Upon this Karl Hanno and Mourine II, rush to mutual embrace, evidently meaning that they are in love.*

All leave).

SECTION V.

[SCENE—*Karl Hanno and Mourine II.*, in company with themselves, are promenading the lawns of a beautiful garden surrounding the royal palace. Among the many beauties there, are conspicuous the statues, monuments, arches of triumph, playgrounds fish-ponds, hanging gardens, fixtures of amusements, swings, moving seats fly-wheels, panoramas of foreign sceneries; all is represented in the most conceivable art of perfection, making the garden appear singularly magnificent. It is richly supplied with flower-beds, tall evergreens, small watercourses subjected to fall converging over leaping rocks whose gorges are overbridged by stone arches to accomodate the spectator. *Karl Hanno and Mourine II.* are so disposed to each other that the beholder dismisses all doubts as to their sincerity, happiness and devotion to each other. Having finished this pleasant exercise in the garden, they betake themselves into the Waiting Parlor in the parliament building, opposite the royal palace, and take seats side by side on one of the many sofas of the most costly finish, and while still left to themselves, their conversation is continued in a manner giving evidence of two happy lovers.]

Karl H.—Now, *Mourine*: I suppose you begin to feel tired, and for a change, let us be seated here on one of these sofas and enjoy our first meeting. You know the story how a man found his wife, is always a pleasant subject to talk on, and now, that we have become lovers as one soul we are at liberty to talk over things now in the light which, before this event, we dared not to do, as all this was hidden in darkness and mysterious developments. Ah! *Mourine*, I forget that you are *Mourine II.*, the successor on the throne of a mighty nation. Vanity has so little to do with love that courtesy in its most simple form is Home Rule wherever two kindred hearts are meeting, and when love becomes a reality, the name loses all attributes and I simply call you

Mourine. What time is it now?— is it?. O, well, we have a few moments yet left to ourselves to finish our story before the opening of parliament.

What can I do for you?

Mourine II.—Love me and I shall give you my throne, as all else but love to me seems vile. I cannot see the power dominating my heart so completely, yet I know that I love with all my soul. At the Royal Reception dinner, when I first caught sight of you, I could not refuse the favorable appeals made by your manly conduct to my admiration. But as matters then stood, I stopped where I was. But to-day I am amazed at the wonderful dispensation of things and the changes that have taken place in so short a time. And poor old Prince of Crain—Tha! ha! ha!

Karl H.—Poor old Prince of Crain—I should say! He got himself into a moss of which the gods of Hercules could not save him. But tell me, Mourine, what was the real object of the Royal Reception; was it not to begin an acquaintanceship that was to lead to our marriage?

Mourine II.—No! I am satisfied that it was not, as already I was engaged to the Prince of Crain and the day fixed for our wedding. But my royal pa pa, no doubt, in consequence of the War-Loan, was moved to bestow the highest honors upon you in the expression of the Royal Reception. That's all.

Karl H.—Poor old Karl, too; I do say it myself. How blindly mistaken a fellow can be when he has fallen victim to a girl: "Love is blind," so they say, and I could only laugh at it, but now I know better. And if such could happen to the greatest financier in the world, the lesser fortunate might then easily be excused for such innocent foolish-

ness. But pardon me, Mourine, for using the expression "greatest financier in the world;" nothing is meant by it, as I consider myself too little in your presence to claim to be anything more than the Child of Destiny. And poor old Prince Crain! ha! ha! I wonder whether he was doomed to commit the crime of embezzlement of \$24,000,000 just for the purpose of breaking up the engagement?

Mourine II.—Of course he was, and just think: \$24,000,000 was considered a small price in the scale of our happiness. Funny it is when great things are used to serve a seemingly small purpose. And the embezzlement of which the prince thought nothing only to serve his own purpose, who can tell but what this very act may furnish a link in the history of our nation? And how sure he was that he could smooth it all up after the loan of \$24,000,000 was secured. Poor old Prince of Crain—Tha! ha! ha!

Karl H.—Poor old Prince of Crain—ha! ha! ha! O, I do not mean to laugh over his misfortune, but merely because it just happened to a big-headed prince. What do you smile at so mischievously, Mourine? I am only a Karl; I am no prince.

Mourine II.—O, nothing. It is nothing. I am just laughing over the farce of the prince: He had his fortune told just as smooth and nice as a picture and he kept still about it until the day was fixed for our wedding when proudly he boasted to his friends that everything now between him and his Hobby girl was O. K. He boasted that he would marry me, and as soon as I should be seated on the throne I would abdicate in his favor and he would be proclaimed king. And he believed

all this because an old reliable fortune teller, an old woman, had told him so. Poor old Prince of Crain. Wont he now scorn the old woman?

Karl H.—Wont he though? And I am sure he paid her a good price. For these old fortune tellers, little as they know, always know enough to fill their own pockets from victims of fortune-believers.—But you didn't feel disposed to abdicate in favor of the Prince of Crain, did you?

Mourine II.—Never! For in my estimation a man whose mental faculties are devoted to things of the superstitious order is certainly not qualified to rule over others, and I would regard it as criminal ever to commit myself to an act of this kind. I say, it would be criminal.

Karl H.—Ah! I see you are indeed Mourine II. A Virgin, clad in manly valor; a will, that of "blood and iron;" a ruler, that of a worthy sovereign. Keep your throne, to make happy your people, but give me your Love in which I shall see all of my wishes answered. (*Titus enters*).

Titus.—The best of my wishes to your uninterrupted happiness, your royal highness Mourine II. and Karl Hanno.

—All is surprising. Now after so many things have transpired in this most remarkable of all modern times the fate of the Prince of Crain may surprise you.

Karl H.—Why don't you tell?

Titus.—He has been tried, found guilty, and convicted to thirty years of imprisonment.

Karl H.—For the embezzlement of \$24,000,000 of public money?

Titus.—That's right.

Karl H.—Well that doesn't surprise me.

Mourine II.—Neither me; why no!

Titus.—Then, here is something that will surprise you.

Karl H.—Make short work of it.

Titus.—Poor Prince of Crain has found a Hercules who is quite willing and able, too, to save him from final ruin and destruction, and what is most conspicuous in the act of his drama is, that he again may rise in power and influence, and not only wipe out his crime and disgrace, but excel in virtue and bravery until he may rise to the pinnacle of national renown. He stands a chance, and he may do it.

Karl H.—Then, what in the name of Hercules has happened?

Mourine II.—Is it a secret? Is it a plot?

Titus.—Not at all—His Majesty, his king and sovereign, has pardoned him and released him from the imprisonment on condition that he take up arms to serve his country on the battlefield, and because of his great military experience, his Majesty has promoted him to the rank of Field-marshal and has given him command of the 4th army.

Karl H.—You don't say?

Titus.—Yes, indeed! No smoke in that. And you know the Prince of Crain is not a soft shell, and now especially since his case has become desperate he will be headlong, and without any fear attempt to carry the national flag into the very heart of the enemy's country, and, if successful, the championship will belong to him. Now you'll see.

Mourine.—I wonder whether his fortuneteller knows anything about that— (*Laughter.*)

Karl H.—That was a surprise, sure enough. But why need I be alarmed about that?

Mourine II.—Why, Karl: Things are surprising. Who can tell what else may develop out of that? He may want to be revenged on you.

Karl H.—Well, then, let the chances of luck do for the Prince of Crain what the gods of Hercules could not. And if he can save himself from national disgrace and wipe out his crime, that's what we want. And if he shall be able to carry the national flag into the enemy's country, so much the better. But one thing I need not fear: "Thus far and no farther." Thus is written by the hand of Destiny.

Mourine II.—But Karl, my dear, what will you do to offset the ambitious championship of the prince?

Titus.—Karl, you know very well that, to have a man without ambition is as worthless as to have a piece of property without a title. That's the position you are in now.

Karl H.—Why Mourine, do not worry. I am wide awake with my eyes fixed upon the compass of life showing me the direction by which I shall reach my destination. You'll see!

Mourine II.—Already do I see: I see the Blessing of all Good is smiling sweetly upon your brow as though the moment is coming in which you shall see all of your wishes answered.

Karl H.—For I am the Child of Destiny, Mourine!

(Karl Hanno, Mourine II. and Titus join the parliament, which is opened by the king from the throne.)

King.—To the servants of the state, to the subjects, and to the representatives of the nation:

In God We Trust.

In these exciting moments where is prevailing the thrill of battle-cry, undoubtedly many a heart is beating. There is nothing that occupies our mind now so vividly as does the scale of our national destiny in these days and the anxiety felt by every patriotic citizen shedding his blood on the battlefield. But, al-

though the brave are slain, property destroyed, the national debts enormously increased, it is better, evil against evil to keep the Balance of Power, than for one evil to be permitted to remain, which then, in its evil tendency, gives birth to many more and even greater evils. On these, and on no other principles do we recognize the necessity of war, which is righteous on the part of the defenders; cruel, unjust, arrogant and inhuman on the part of the outrageous. Viewing the situation, we have our activity well in hand and the national machinery thus far is working well. But nevertheless, judging from the present events in this early stage of the war, the final result of the struggle cannot yet distinctly be determined upon, as the full strength of the national defense has not yet been brought to bear upon the situation. In the field, one or two mishaps have occurred of late in some of the skirmishes but our confidence of success is not at all shaken. In consequence of this, your king and sovereign finds it of the highest importance to repair to the front and assume the chief command: The army, shall it be that of a national clockwork, must have a mainspring also by which it is set to universal motion. Ye, the servants of the state and of the government, to you I trust the domestic affairs of the government at home during my absence, and I do hereby appoint Mourine II. regent of the regency; Karl Hanno to fill the vacancy of the premier, who is to accompany his king and master to the battlefield as chief adviser; also Titus is appointed Secretary of the State. Hoping that sooner or later the achievement of a final victory shall be secured, and we shall again unite and exult in the blessings of peace and tranquillity for evermore. This is our prayer. (*All cheer.*)

(Karl Hanno and Titus repair to the Waiting Parlor, all others leave.)

Karl H.—All things are made new. The sad tace of the past is disappearing from my view as the moment is nearing in which I shall see all of my wishes answered. And the arrival of that moment will close the scene.

Titus.—Why Karl, you don't mean to say that that will be the last of you, do you?

Karl H.—Yes. For the arrival of that moment is the fulfillment of my promised lot, and the conviction

that I had of this moment in all the days of my life will be a reality, and the program of Destiny is thereby ended.

Titus.—Why Karl, what do you really mean; do you mean that after that moment you will be dead, and buried? Don't talk so strangely. What is the matter with you?

Karl H.—I say, when that moment is arrived at, the program of Destiny is ended. For the conviction—

Titus.—Well, I think that kind of talk is not at all becoming a man so highly elevated in earthly grandeur as you are. Your career will then really begin, and not as you say, be ended. Just think: The beauty of harmony of the different phases of life will find expression in the Child of Destiny, whose happiness is guaranteed by the Heavenly Powers having charge of your destiny, and your mighty wealth—

Karl H.—Here, here, stop! You don't understand me. Let me finish my subject. I say merely that by the arrival of that moment the program of Destiny is ended—

Titus.—And your career will go on, is that it?

Karl H.—Why certainly. The dream of my life comes true as the moment arrives and what may follow thereafter is not included in this program. Don't you "versteh?"

Titus.—Yes. Now I "versteh" the riddle.

(*They join parliament which is opened by Mourine II., the appointed Regent.*)

Mourine II.—To the servants of the state, to the subjects, and to the representatives of the nation:

In God We Trust.

—In the last meeting of parliament it was stated

from the throne that a few mishaps had occurred to our arms in the field of action and that in consequence of this our king and sovereign deemed it of the highest importance to repair to the front and assume the chief command. Further: That our confidence was not at all shaken and that the full strength of the country's defense had not yet been brought to bear on the situation. This we find was correct. With regard to our success since, we are able to say that the enemy, to a certain extent, had been beaten, and the conclusion of peace was a matter of a question next to a certainty when to our surprise the enemy found a powerful ally, and the situation again changed. Then the difficulties of the army developed in double strength and the second army of 85,000 men was checked, defeated, and is now besieged at St. Ruba. The first and the third armies are holding their own, not however without danger of being dislodged from their position, and reinforcements are urgently needed. But this success of the enemy on land, we are glad to say, is met by a reverse on the sea by our fleet, doing great damage on the enemy's coast, blockading their harbors, capturing or destroying many of their vessels. All of this, be that as it is, is the fortune of war, and if we want our country to triumph, the nation must be fully aware of her duty and tax her ability to such extent that the superiority of our arms be secured over those of the enemy, in spite of their combined forces. More men are wanted. Money is as yet plenty. But the government sees the necessity of resorting to a draft of men to muster in one more army so as to meet the increased forces of the enemy and bring

the war to a speedy close. That the government will not be disappointed in what is demanded is our prayer. (*Exit*).

Premier (Karl H.)—Citizens: With reference to the speech from the throne, our national warfare is clearly brought to light by the fact that our enemy has found a powerful ally and that the situation has changed to our disadvantage. The fact that one of our armies was checked, defeated, and is now besieged, makes it absolutely necessary to raise one more army in addition to the four already in the field. Money is yet plentiful, and the draft of men necessary to make up the rank and file should be secured with little difficulty. The bill provides for 240,000 men to be raised immediately, and parliament is asked to accept the bill and let same go into power.—Is there any opposition to the bill?

From the right.—Your honor: I move that parliament accept the bill and let same go into power.

Premier.—The motion is made that parliament accept the bill and let same go into power. Is there any opposition?—if not, the motion is carried.

Sec. of St. (Titus).—Your honor: a message has arrived. (*Reads.*)

"Pine Valley, July 7th: The 1st and the 3d. armies were obliged to fall back, but not until after the bloody battles of Sheepnose Ridge and Sandy River, which were fought on our part against vastly superior numbers. The 2nd. army at St. Kuba is still besieged, and is hard pressed. The Prince of Crain, with the 4th army of 120,000 men, is sent to their relief. Hurry on the 5th army, and as many of the reserve as there are to spare.

"LOUIS PHILIP IV."

Premier.—The Minister of War is urged to carry out the order of the king without delay. Is there other

business on hand?—if not, give three cheers for our king and his brave soldiers. Hip, hip, hip: Hurrah! (*All cheer.*)

(*Parliament is allowed a short recess, whereupon they dissolve into many groups discussing the country's defense. Mourine II. and Karl Hanno are seen having a short conversation aside with manifest apprehension of some kind. Parliament is again called to order and all retake their seats.*)

Premier.—Parliament is called to proceedings.

Sec. of St.—Your honor: A note handed in by the regent requesting the Secretary of the War-Department to report on the transportation of the troops.

Sec. of W. D.—Your honor: 75,000 men are already on the way to the front; 150,000 more will leave within two days.

Premier.—These are certainly quick moves, but nevertheless slow in times of war. Is there other business on hand?

Sec. of St.—Your honor: A petition is handed in praying the regent to pardon a young civilian who shot and killed the lover of his girl. (*Petition is forwarded.*)

Speaker.—Your honor: I have a bill for parliament to enact a law that a War-Tax be levied on all the great financiers.

Prem. (aside)—That's against our interests—

Sec. (aside)—Well, turn the damper on them.

Premier.—We are too busy now to consider the bill. These are war times.

Sec. of St.—Your honor: Another petition is handed in praying the regent to allow immediate relief to the widows whose husbands have fallen in the present war.

Premier.—The regent has no power to allow or to grant relief to the widows whose husbands have fallen in this war, as this is taxing the people.

From the right.—Your honor: The petition prays for “immediate” relief.

Premier.—As we are too busy now to give this case consideration, we will turn this matter over to a Special Relief Committee.

--Is there other business?

Sec. of St.—Your honor: An important message has arrived. (*Reads.*)

“Pine Valley. July 19th: Yesterday our besieged army of 85,000 men at St. Ruba was relieved by the Prince of Crain, and in consequence of his success he was given command of both the 2nd and the 3d armies in addition to his own. With this total of 280,000 men he is now marching into the heart of the enemy’s country to invest Buda-Paar. There was also a great battle fought between the enemy and the 1st army near Goathorn Fork, in which our forces suffered heavy losses, but secured a victory of great importance. May the country be filled with joy and confidence and cheer her brave soldiers.

“LOUIS PHILIP IV.”

(*Great cheers and shouts are devoted to the king, to the Prince of Crain and to their brave soldiers, whereupon parliament adjourns and they all leave. Titus and Karl H. repair to the Waiting Parlor.*)

Titus.—Now, Karl, I should like to know the Secret Understanding there is between you and the king.

Karl H.—Very well. But you know times have changed. Opportunities are not like they used to be, and when we have a matter on hand we must talk “snap-shot,” since now we have become political leaders. I have tied up the king; no doubt about that.

Titus.—Then you took the Government bonds for security, did you?

Karl H.—I did. But understand, I durst not sell these bonds.

Titus.—What use have you of the bonds if you durst not sell them?

Karl H.—O, I durst sell them just as I please, but that would ruin the king.

Titus.—Heavens! Was he so hard pressed as to give way to such bargain?

Karl H.—He was. And where I made my point is this: In order to give Government bonds for security the king made the loan appear a Public loan, and this was done under pretense of establishing a Secret Service Fund as long as the war would last.

Titus.—Well that doesn't tie up the king to establish a Secret Service Fund.

Karl H.—Under pretense, understand. The Secret Service Fund has never seen a dollar of it.

Titus.—That's enough. I know the rest of that foul play. So the king's hands are tied?

Karl H.—Hands tied until the close of the war, when he hopes to redeem the Government bonds with money paid by the vanquished enemy.

Well I am astonished.

Who wouldn't be?

Titus.—But that is bad on the king.

Karl H.—Not at all. He will never get hurt, if he never hurts me. But should he ever interfere with my welfare I have a weapon in my hands that I can sway over the king to bring him to terms.

Titus.—Yes! Since you have become a child of Destiny you are a different man. Shrewdness, dash, sagacity and a fearless self-confidence, these are traits with which now you are commanding success. But remember: Don't let the king get loose, else you'll be the one that's tied.

Karl H.—No! Not before the war is over.

—Wait! I must go and see my Sweetheart, and her mother, about that. (*Exit*).

(*Enter—Mourine II. and her royal mother*).

Queen.—Your Excellency!

Titus.—Your Highness!

Queen.—Where is Karl Hanno?

Titus.—He has just gone out to see your Highness about something, but he may be right back again since he will not find you.

Queen.—What was it about; does your Excellency know?

Titus.—Not exactly but it is something that concerns the king.

Queen.—Things are surprising and every day has a different face. Would you wonder to see the Prince of Crain a champion of the nation?

Titus.—Strictly, I would not. In times of war there is every chance for an ambitious schemer to make himself conspicuous on the scene; but I would wonder if the Prince of Crain, in consequence of his success, should renew his old scheme and interfere with the engagement of Mourine and Karl Hanno.

Mourine.—Who can tell his plan. This much I know: He is coveting the throne.

Queen.—And the alarming fact is, the king is upholding him in his tactics. It is something that is hard to understand when a father, to satisfy others, compels his own child to go against her own wishes and thereby sacrifice her own happiness.

—But he may not come. Let us go back, Mourine. Perhaps Karl is waiting for us in the palace. (*They go*.)

(*Karl H. enters*.)

Titus.—Did you find them?

Karl H.—I did not.

Titus.—Ha, ha! a joke on you; they were here.

Karl H.—What—to see me?

Titus.—Yes!

Karl H.—Why didn't you hold them here; what did they say?

Titus.—Things are surprising, and not two days have faces alike, so they thought. The king, the Prince of Crain, both are making faces most alarming to them. More they did not venture to say.

Karl H.—It would not take much of a guesser to tell what is behind the political curtain. When the engagement of the Prince of Crain was declared "Null and Void," and my engagement with Mourine II. followed closely after, everybody thought us as good as married; but everybody did not think, as I do, that good things do not come so easily.

Titus.—But as long as they are coming, what's the difference? Lest you forget, I tell you again: Watch the old hen. (*Exit.*)

(*Enter Mourine II. and her royal mother.*)

Queen.—Your Excellency—

Karl H.—Your Highness!

Queen.—With regard to a matter interfering with the choice of Mourine II., I ask the favor of an interview.

Karl H.—With greatest pleasure, your Highness. What is it?

Queen.—Great as is the success of the Prince of Crain on the battlefield, in which the country is rejoicing, it is nevertheless disturbing my personal welfare. The prince is proving a great military genius and the king fell in love with him.

Karl H.—Is it possible?

Queen.—It is. And in consequence of this his king and sovereign has promoted him to the chief command of all the armies in the field.

Karl H.—That's good for the prince.

Queen.—O yes; but the matter does not stop here: The fact that the king is making so much out of the prince gives hints of a high-handed scheme. You see that right here in the promotion.

Karl H.—But this is entirely new.

Queen.—It is. But by a private message received yesterday a confidential spy has informed me of the fact. Now, the Prince of Crain will never become a member of the royal family as far as my daughter is concerned, as she considers the matter settled ever since the embezzlement became publicly known, from which it followed that the engagement was declared "Null and Void"—

Mourine.—As now he was a criminal before the law, understand.

Karl H.—Certainly.

Queen.—And there the matter ended. All at once we are surprised by a letter just received in which my royal husband states that his Majesty is strongly in favor of a union of Mourine II. and the Prince of Crain. What an insult!

—What I think is true, the king will insist on his schemes; Mourine is persistent, and the Prince of Crain will make trouble. What an evil!—Thinking as I do, that the king is acting under influences, it would all fall flat could this current of sympathy for the Prince of Cain be checked by some weighty means that would cause the king to change his policy. In sympathy with my daughter I am troubled over the affair.

Karl H.—Ah! Your Highness, I was hardly prepared

for a surprise like that. The welfare of a child threatened by her own father, I would not have thought it possible. After all: I do not think the king means what he says.

Queen.—Ah! Your Excellency: Dare you think the king does not mean what he says?

Karl H.—I do in this case. With him it is politics. Anything will do to make a bluff—

Mourine.—But suppose he *does* mean what he says; what will we do with this bluff?

Karl H.—Never mind, Mourine. Your pa understands me. He has his hands tied in a certain secret understanding between him and me, and he will not push matters to an extreme.

Queen (*surprised*).—Is such a thing possible?

Karl H.—Simple enough: As I think, It must have been known to his Majesty in the first place that the Prince of Crain was guilty of the \$24,000,000 embezzlement while he was Hobby Treasurer. In order to shield the prince from public disgrace, from imprisonment and also to let the contemplated marriage take place, the king applied to me to furnish him a loan of \$24,000,000—

Queen.—“To set straight his intended son-in-law?”

Karl H.—That’s right.

Queen.—Well I declare!

Karl H.—I promised him the loan, but on condition only that he give me security in Government bonds.

Mourine.—Could he do that?

Karl H.—He could under a false pretense.

Queen.—Yes, you see right here, he is scheming all the time—but go on!

Karl H.—The loan was made to appear a Public loan on pretense of establishing a Secret Service Fund of which a great war is always in need. The Secret

Understanding was, not to sell these bonds but to keep them undisturbed until the close of the war.

Queen.—Why so?

Karl H.—Oh! the king would have a question to answer that might prove serious.

Queen.—Serious? It was for the Secret Service Fund, I understand.

Karl H.—Poor Secret Service Fund has never seen a dollar of it.

Queen.—That is enough!

Mourine.—But, Karl, how will you get your money back?

Karl H.—At the close of the war the Government will redeem these \$24,000,000 bonds with money paid by the vanquished enemy as a War Indemnity, and nobody will know a thing about it. So the king is indebted to me for \$24,000,000 until the close of the war. And if he does that, he has reason to fear that I might do this—and he will not carry matters to an extreme, and your Highness need not worry.

Queen.—It is astonishing to think of how on the one hand the king was scheming to set straight the Prince of Crain, while on the other hand the man of genius was protecting himself by a well calculated game: Shrewdness, dash, sagacity and a fearless selfconfidence, these are traits of your Excellency swaying kings and sovereigns in a degree astounding to the court of the Hobby nation. And that explains why the Prince of Crain is so ambitious to secure for himself the championship.

Karl H.—Yet I am only the Child of Destiny, that's all.

Mourine.—“Child of Destiny,” what a meaning! Truly have you spoken of yourself, as wide awake, with your eyes fixed upon the compass of life showing you the direction by which you

shall reach your destination. Oh, Karl! Is there anybody that compares with you, a man who recognizes the opportunities of life, and embraces them as you do? I confess there is not. To you we are looking up for protection, trusting that for your sake, my royal father will not be harsh to me in his further treatments.

(Exeunt Mourine and her mother).

Titus (enters).—How now about the hen; are you watching her?

Karl H.—I am, and she has changed her nest.

Titus.—How is that?

Karl H.—The Prince of Crain had success and the king fell in love with him.

Titus.—You don't say.

Karl H.—That's right. The queen received a letter from her royal husband in which he told her that he favors a union of Mourine II. and the Prince of Crain. But if such should ever happen, it will be an unhappy one for Mourine, for she hates him.

Titus.—Well, I pity the prince. And why does she hate him?

Karl H.—Because she loves me.

Titus.—And she told you so, did she?

Karl H.—Never!

Titus.—Smoke, riddles, rats! You are trapped again.

Karl H.—Never!

Titus.—Why don't you explain yourself?

Karl H.—Love me, and I shall give you my throne.—

Titus.—Said it, and meant it, did she?

Karl H.—Certainly.

Titus.—Who will deny it; \$600,000,000; Mourine II.; the throne of the Hobbies; Karl, if you should get

Mourine, she will make you the greatest fortune of the three.

Karl H.—I think you are extravagant in your figures, but maybe, you are right. (*Titus leaves, Mourine enters*).

Mourine.—Be not surprised, Karl, here is a letter; read it. (*He reads.*)

"Dear Daughter Mourine:

"May you strictly know this:

"If you will not renounce your engagement with Karl Hanno in favor of the Prince of Crain I shall disinherit you. Concerning Karl Hanno, he is a great financier, and it is true of him that he is honest and of a good disposition; but he is no soldier. The Prince of Crain, the greatest military genius of the age, endowed with all the qualities of a sovereign, and a man who has saved the country from the defeat of arms, he is the man for the throne. According to these facts I am now shaping my policy, which, I hope, will not meet with further opposition on your part.

"YOUR ROYAL FATHER."

(*Queen enters*)

Queen.—Is not that awful?

Karl H.—Is it not? I cannot understand this. (*Titus enters.*)

Titus.—What has happened?

Mourine II.—He will disinherit me—

Titus.—What! Disinherit Mourine II.? Never! and again: Never! Parliament shall hear you. The nation will answer; Justice will answer; All will answer: Never!

Karl H.—Well, I've got the king tied up by the \$24,000,000 loan. He is tied. What can he do?

Titus.—That's so, Karl. And if he does that, he has reasons to fear that you might do this—and your Highness need not worry.

(*A hand is seen writing on the wall.*)

Karl H. (reads)—"Child of Destiny: I am watching thee. Thou hast not been faithful to thy pledge to comply with the law that I commanded thee, namely: " "When thou shalt be seated in thy stately wealth thou shalt not ascribe thy success to thy merit, nor shalt thou use braggart's language concerning thy riches." "

—What does this mean?

(*The Hobby Treasurer enters.*)

Hobby Treasurer.—"To Karl Hanno, Prince of Finances: —"May you know that hereby I am authorized to release the Government bonds of the \$24,000,000 loan which was made in favor of the Prince of Crain, who is now able to redeem them with his own money, as he—the Prince of Crain—has captured the enemy's War-Treasury of \$30,000,000, and, according to military reward, the booty is his. —"The release of these bonds is the order of the king."

(*All are astounded.*)

Karl H.—Is this my "Mene Tekel?"

SECTION VI.

(The scene is the same as in the last section. The true premier has returned from the front where he was assisting his king, and Karl Hanno is relieved of that office. The queen—king's wife—is appointed regent and Mourine II. is relieved also of that office. Also Titus is relieved of his office as Secretary of the State. The premier and the new secretary, after a short conversation in the Waiting Parlor, enter the assembly hall where parliament is opened by the queen, the newly appointed regent.)

Premier (*Excited*).—What can be done? The country, I fear, has to face a storm. If now the Prince of Crain is the hero of the nation, Karl Hanno, the Prince of Finances, is the ideal of the people; both of equal strength and prominence before the public, but not both of equal honesty, that is true. The engagement of Mourine II. with Karl Hanno has nothing to do with parliament, but the forced abdication of her right of succession and the disinheritance of his daughter by the king is quite another thing. I myself do not approve of the king's action. But I am charged by his Majesty to carry out his policy and I want your entire support in the hot debates in parliament. Remember!

Sec.—Like a hero I can face any kind of a storm as long as I don't get my face scratched.

Premier.—All jokes aside: Are your documents all in readiness? Everything is now waiting for us. Hurry! Hurry! Hurry!

Sec.—(*He hurries with all his might.*) Crackerty; wreckerty; who pays me for all this?

Premier.—What's that?

Sec.—I say, I don't get paid in the hurry.

Premier.—Might not get paid at all.

Sec.—Well that's what I wanted to know, who pays me for all this?

Premier.—Never mind: If we carry the king's point we shall receive an empty title.

Sec.—That suits me because there is no Income Tax to be paid on—Well, I am ready. Have you got your parliamentary ammunition powder?—I have, sir!
(*They join the session. The premier occupies his chair with the Secretary close in his rear.*)

Queen-Regent.—To the servants of the state, to the subjects, and to the representatives of the nation:

In God We Trust.

—Our national strife at the front on the battlefield, has finally developed the brightest character and the tidings of peace may soon again reach us and lighten our hearts. The fall of Buda-Paar is predicted to take place in less than a month and the presence of your king and sovereign at the front is still indispensable. On the other hand, your king and sovereign has forwarded a note in which is declared the disinheritance of Mourine II., the only natural heir to the throne, but concerning which your appointed regent, as regent, has no power to act, as this is resting with the king, and the parliament to give it sanction. But as for myself, as much as personally I am concerned in this matter, I condemn the act. May the Hand of Providence prevent evil and save his people. This is our prayer. (*Exit.*)

Premier.—“To the parliament:”

—“Royal Declaration of Disinheritance.”

“Be it known to the Parliament and to the Representatives of the nation that hereby is declared the disinheritance of Mourine II. in consequence of which the throne of the Hobbies will descend to Princess Luisa, first niece of the king; and be it further known that by this act the safety of

the throne as well as the interests of the country are hereby secured."

"August 10th, in the twenty-sixth year of his reign."

"LOUIS PHILIP IV."

"King of the Hobbies."

—This declaration is awaiting the sanction of parliament.

From the Left.—Your honor: What is the reason of the king's action in this case?

Premier.—This remains with the king only. It is purely a domestic affair.

Fr. the Center.—Your honor: If the affair is purely domestic, why does it need the sanction of parliament?

Prem. (aside)—I'm cornered! *Sec. (aside)*—That's what they wanted.

Premier.—The reason, understand, is domestic; the declaration requires the sanction of parliament.

Sec. (aside)—That was a bluff. *Prem. (aside)*—Well don't tell 'em!

Fr. the Left.—Your honor: Can parliament be satisfied with this explanation?

Sec. (aside)—You can't bluff 'em. *Prem. (aside)*—No! They're old politicians.

Premier.—Parliament has no jurisdiction over domestic affairs.

Sec. (aside)—Will they believe that? *Prem. (aside)*—Don't ask me

Fr. the Left.—Your honor: The king is responsible to the parliament.

Premier.—That's new to me. On the contrary, the king is responsible only to himself, and is above parliament.

Sec. (aside)—You're a liar. *Prem. (aside)*—What of it? This is politics.

Attorney—Your honor: Is the disinheritance of an heir to the throne constitutional?

Sec. (*aside*)—That's a new gun. He is dangerous to the king Prem. (*aside*)—Well you'll not hurt him by looking at him.

Sec.—It wouldn't be had it not been for so long in existence in the state of the Hobby nation.

Sec. (*aside*)—Support that; go on.

Premier.—Does any one suppose the king does not know the constitution?

Sec. (*aside*)—Now you've told them stuff. Prem (*aside*)—What's the difference? They do the same.

Fr. the Right.—Your honor: No trifling with the constitution. Let it have supreme power.

Fr. the Left.—Your honor: We understand the controversy arises from an intended marriage of which the king does not approve.

Fr. the Right.—Out of order!

Premier.—Domestic affairs before parliament are out of order.

Sec.—Positively, setting aside an heir to the throne is constitutional, as such an act has occurred once before in the history of the Hobbies.

Prem. (*aside*)—By joky they believe it. Sec. (*aside*)—Well don't stop 'em.

Attorney.—So it has, but understand, there was a reason to justify the case and I demand in the name of Mourine II. a reason that will justify the king's action. (*Wild yells.*) No reason! No reason that will justify the king's action. Innocent! Innocent! She is the innocent beloved of the people.

Attorney.—I demand that Mourine II. be permitted to speak: Her complaints must be heard before parliament.

Premier.—Overruled by the chair!

Sec. (*aside*)—What did you do? Prem. (*aside*)—I turned the damper on them.

Fr. the Left.—Your honor: I move that parliament take a vote on that. (*Universal cries.*) Let her speak! Let her speak! We all demand it.

Premier.—Order!—Mourine II. is permitted to speak!—
No! No! Not permitted: We demand it.—Order!—
Mourine II. may speak. (*Mourine II. enters.*)

Sec. (*aside.*)—What did you do that for?— Prem.
(*aside.*)—None of your business.— Sec. (*aside.*)—En-
force your orders.— Prem. (*aside.*)—Haven't got
troops enough for that mob.

Mourine II.—To the parliament and to the representa-
tives of the nation:

—He that is at peace with himself and free from
guilt before God and men, he it is who is looking
up to justice to be fair with the innocent. What
else has been the policy of mine in all my life than
to be in harmony with all that with which my re-
sponsibility has to reckon. And even more than
this: To make happy my people even at the cost of
my own happiness.

Sec. (*aside.*)—That speech is a lie. Prem. (*aside.*)—
'Twas a lawyer that wrote it.

—But the policy of mine, in all things fair in itself,
and in its consequence fair to others, is, to my
regret, not rightfully understood by those whose own
interests weigh more in the scale of personal gain
than does my happiness. Perhaps the One fault:
Not to part with my rights and privileges, is the
cause of my troubles; properly do I speak of my
engagement with Karl Hanno, the Prince of Finances,
which was also sanctioned at one time by my royal
father himself, as now the public has intelligence of.
Even so, it has nevertheless settled the scheme of
the Prince of Crain who is coveting the throne, not
me, and to satisfy the code, I must be given him in
marriage which by all rights and privileges I decid-
edly refuse to do. More it is not necessary to say,
and parliament will well understand the cause of my

troubles and my rejection from the throne. (*Wild shouts.*)

—It shall never be done! Hurrah for Mourine II.
Hurrah! Hurrah! Hurrah!

Attorney.—Your honor: Parliament acknowledges the innocence of Mourine II.

Fr. the Center.—Your honor: It is necessary parliament should know the reason of the king's action, if he has any.

Sec. (aside).—Shall we give it?— *Prem. (aside)*.—I think we have to.

Premier.—The Secretary of the State will read the reason of the king's action.

Sec.—Here it is:

"To all whom it may concern:

"We, the king and the guardians of the constitution, have at all times watched the interests of the country and the welfare of the people, for which reason we are presently involved in an affair concerning the safety of the throne. May it be known that Mourine II., heiress to the throne, is making common cause with her lover, Karl Hanno, the Prince of Finances, in view to concluding a union which, in our opinion and judgment, is against the safety of the throne and the interests of the country, and duty is compelling us to prevent this union. But as our efforts to that effect are by all certainty proving a failure, our only alternative is to reject Mourine II in favor of Princess Luisa, first niece of the king, who is also to form a union with the Prince of Crain, that thereby the safety of the throne and the interests of the country may be secured.

"LOUIS PHILIP IV.,

"King of the Hobbies."

Attorney.—So is the safety of the throne and the interests of the country a reason for the king's action. Let us see:

—Presuming the Prince of Crain will at some time be the husband of our future queen: The Prince of Crain has demonstrated in the recent past his

dishonesty to the Government by the embezzlement of \$24,000,000 of public money while being Hobby Treasurer, and he has escaped punishment besides. A man in power capable of such a thing is certainly not to the interests of the country, and a man that is not to the interests of the country, and who is so near to the throne, is certainly not a safety for the throne: Consequently, the reason of the king's action cannot be justified— (*Shouts.*) Hurrah for Mourine II.!

Premier.—Order!—Accusations against his Majesty in parliament are out of order.

Sec. (aside)—Arrest him— *Prem. (aside)*—Can't; he is backed by the mob.

Fr. the Left.—Your honor: Don't you know that he is the Attorney of the Parliamentary Tribunal?

Premier.—Makes no difference: The king is not a subject.— (*Shouts.*) Go on! Attorney, go on!—
Prem: Order!—

Sec. (aside)—Arrest him! arrest the Attorney, he is dangerous to the king; arrest him.-- *Prem. (aside)*-- Haven't got troops enough, I tell you. See the mob!

Attorney—Now on the other hand:

—Presuming Karl Hanno, the Prince of Finances, will at some time be the husband of our future queen: Karl Hanno, the Prince of Finances, has demonstrated in the recent past his honesty to the Government and his patriotic devotion to the country by furnishing the Government the staggering War-Loan of \$425,000,000, money out of his own pocket, when the country was in great need. A man capable of such a thing is certainly to the interests of the country, and a man so devoted to the interests of the country, and so near to the throne, is certainly a safety for the throne: Consequently, the reason of Mourine II., not to part with her rights

and privileges, and the refusal concerning the Prince of Crain and the favoring of Karl Hanno is perfectly justified, and parliament cannot sanction the Declaration of Disinheritance of Mourine II. (*Wild shouts.*) Hurrah for Mourine II.! Hurrah!

Premier.—But the Declaration of Disinheritance by the sovereign can go into effect without the sanction of parliament and is constitutional. (*Wild yells.*)

—Never! Never! Down with the bluff! Down with such a folly!

Sec. (aside.)—Hain't you ashamed?— *Prem. (aside.)*— Use anything here.

Fr. the Center.—Your honor: I suggest that the Chief Justice of the Hobby Supreme Court define the constitution as regards this point of dispute.

Premier.—The Chief Justice is requested to define the point of dispute.

Chief Justice.—Here it is:

"CONSTITUTION OF THE HOBBIES."

"SECTION VIII., Paragraph 9: Disinheritance and Rights of Succession.

1st: If the succession of an heir, or heiress to the throne, if an heir apparent, is either disputed or objected to, the sovereign shall have power to set aside said heir apparent by a decree without the act of parliament.

2nd: If the succession of an heir, or heiress to the throne, if a natural one, is objected to by reason of his, or her incapability, or because of disloyalty to the constitution, the sovereign shall have power to disinherit said natural heir, or heiress by a Declaration of Disinheritance sanctioned by parliament.

"3rd: If the succession of an heir, or heiress to the throne, if a natural one, is objected to by reason of an act that cannot be justified, his, or her right of succession is guaranteed by the Constitution of the Hobbies, and neither Sovereign nor Parliament shall have power to reject such heir, or heiress to the throne."

—(*Universal roar.*) Mourine! Mourine supreme! No disinheritance! Hail! Hail! All hail Mourine supreme! Hurrah for Mourine II.!

Prem. (*aside*)—Well, that let's us out.— Sec. (*aside*).— Now, what's the difference!

Attorney.—So is the action of the king unconstitutional on the ground that his reason cannot be justified with regard to a natural heir, and I move that the decision of parliament shall be forwarded to the king in the front declaring the Declaration of Disinheritance of Mourine II. "Null and void" as his act of proceeding is unconstitutional. (*All second the motion.*)

Premier.—The motion is carried. The Secretary of the State is authorized to forward the decision of parliament to the king in the front as suggested in the motion, namely: That his act is unconstitutional and that we require an immediate answer.

(*Parliament is dismissed until the arrival of the king's answer. Mourine II. and Karl Hanno, who was absent during the session, meet in the Waiting Parlor.*)

Karl Hanno.—Mourine forever: After many storms there will be sunshine for I shall see at least One moment in life in which I shall see all of my wishes answered. You, the unchanged, like the immovable pier founded in the depths of the ebbies against which are dashing the heightened waves of the maddened sea, you shall see the moment of an equal degree of happiness as the Blessing of all Good is our promise: Though you be outrighted of the succession; though you be robbed of your throne, this they cannot rob you of, for I am the Child of Destiny.

Mourine.—Oh! How the heart is soothed when in the hour of trials the soul turns again to thoughts most sublime. And he that is at peace

with himself, how well fitted he is to overcome the attacks of the foe of life when in the moment of despair others are perishing. I was not so before, but the great Teacher of Life, and especially the events of the very recent days, have trained my heart and I bow before the same dispensatory power before which all mortals bow. Yesterday Mourine II., to-day the disinherited of the throne of a mighty nation; and what am I now? Oh, Karl! Forget not that all this I might be spared if I could bear the thought of parting from you.

Karl H.—Be not dismayed, Mourine. He that overcometh shall live; and he that is trusting in the Blessing of all Good, shall never fall.

Mourine.—Indeed are you the Child of Destiny, and the Blessing of all Good is smiling sweetly upon your brow. Thrones, kingdoms, and empires fall short in the scale in which are weighed these things eternal of heavenly comfort. When shall the moment come?

Karl H.—Perhaps soon, and when it does come, the moment will last forever, for these are things eternal.

(Queen Regent enters and finds Mourine weeping.)

Queen.—Mourine, dear child. Be not dismayed. The ugly face of the present will soon pass away and all will be made new. To-day you are the "Disinherited" by the act of your royal papa himself, who, under the misleading influence of a despised clique of demagogues, cares more for the purpose of those than for the love and happiness of his own child. Your papa is swaying powerful armies, but you are swaying the hearts of the people. And if your papa does that, they will do this—for your Rights and Privileges are guaranteed by the Constitution of the Hobbies.

Mourine.--Yes, ma, but think: In a revolutionary sense the constitution is but a dead letter, and brutal force alone will command the situation.

Karl H.--And in spite of all this, and the fact that the present has assumed an ugly face, these things are sent to serve a purpose, for such is life. We think it bad, but life without the intermediate changes from good to bad, and from bad to good is, in my estimation, not a dramatic accomplishment, and therefore could not be of wonderful results. The troubled soul will be so much the happier when victory comes, and a thousandfold will be rewarded he who has done straight book-keeping in the days of his life. Mourine! Remember: The purpose of life has a greater meaning than those things that we can see. (*Titus enters*).

Titus.--Best greeting.--But why does your royal Highness look so sad?

Mourine.--I beg; I beg your honor, Titus. Royalty on me is suspended, as I am the "Disinherited" and I have lost my title.

Titus.--In form, but not in fact. Ah! don't I know it?

Karl (*aside*)--He is a delightful predictor; a great sympathizer, yes, and a great joker at times, and he never fishes in troubled waters. Mourine: You may now know how to take him.

Mourine.--And your Honor seems to be sincere in the assertion?

Titus.--Precisely so, for the nation is taking the case into their own hands now. Ha! It is not merely the parliament, nay: the nation itself. Constitutionally, the action of his Majesty cannot be justified, and everything is now waiting for the king's answer. If he will yield his schemes and drop the Prince of Crain, everything will go on

the old footing; if he will resist and tread upon the constitution and force his scheme, he will be met with a like resistance on the part of the people.

Queen.—But that would cause a revolution.

Mourine.—Yes, and what an evil.

Titus.—O, yes. But we hold the same policy that is held by his Majesty himself, namely: that it is better evil against evil to keep the Balance of Power, than for One evil to be permitted to remain, which then in its evil tendency gives birth to many more, and even greater evils.

Mourine.—O, no! your Honor: Rather than to have the country converted into a bloody revolution I would sooner give up my throne.

Titus.—O, yes. The people well know the honest and pure character of Mourine II., and I readily admit that your Highness refrains from a throne stained with blood, but understand it is now a matter with the people to uphold the constitution. "Neither the sovereign nor parliament shall have power to set aside a natural heir, or heiress to the throne by reason of an act that cannot be justified."—Section VIII, Paragraph 9—3rd.

Mourine (aside)—Ma: He knows more about our national economy than most of our professional politicians.

Queen (aside)—Understand: he is a self-made man.

(*Enter*—The Minister of War and the Attorney of P. T.)

Attorney—Your Royal Highness, and Gentlemen of Honor —

Mourine.—Ever thanks to your kindness, attorney, for the noble defense on my behalf in parliament,
Attorney.—Thanks; but your Royal Highness will recognize the discharge of my duty for justice and rights only.

Mourine.—But royalty on me is suspended and I have lost my title.

Attorney.—Mistake: Your title, your rights and privileges are in full force, and they are guaranteed by the Constitution of the Hobbies, defended by the people.

Titus.—And don't I know it? All forms of sympathy and devotion for Mourine II.; indignation over the disinheritance; condemnation of the action of the king in connection with the Prince of Crain. Don't I know it? I have been canvassing through the country. Yes!

Mourine II.—Just think: Before parliament the premier made the assertion that the Declaration of Disinheritance could go into effect without the sanction of parliament.

Titus.—His Excellency must have been driven into a tight corner?

Attorney.—He was, and I regret that a great talent is so devoted to a cause of vanity and injustice.

Karl H.—The great military achievements of the Prince of Crain have caught the king and the financiers of the country whose greed is marked by personal gain and vanity, mine of course not included. But thanks to the Almighty that by far the greater part of our people are not devoted to this demon.

Queen.—Changing the subject: As queen regent I desire to know what parliament is going to do in case of the king's refusal to accept the parliamentary decision?

Attorney.—What we shall do? Plans are already completed: In case of the king's refusal, parliament will put up a provisional government with Mourine II. as head of the regency, raise an army and force the king to recognize the constitution, which means the right of succession of Mourine II.

Queen.—But the king has over 800,000 men in the field under his immediate command and the great military genius, the Prince of Crain.

Sec. of War.—And we have 2,000,000 able bodied citizens to put into uniforms, and over \$200,000,000 in the treasury.

Karl H.—And Titus and I can furnish \$200,000,000 more if needed. (*All shout.*) God save the Queen! Hurrah! Hurrah for Mourine II.!

(*The answer of the king has arrived and all enter the assembly hall to take part therein.*)

Queen Regent.—To the servants of the state, to the subjects, and to the representatives of the nation:

In God We Trust.

—If there is anything of marked brightness in the external history of the Hobbies it is at the present: Our allied enemy, in number superior to us, acknowledged their defeat, as their capital is about ready to fall, and the stipulations of peace and treaty are daily contemplated. In this respect the country is exulting in its national security from without and the prestige of the army in its military achievements is more conspicuous than ever. In our internal affairs the situation is different. The answer of the king with regard to the parliamentary decision in the case of the disinheritation of Mourine II. has arrived and is in the hands of the premier. As to this we can rightfully emphasize that whatever may be the course of either of the controvorsing parties, the constitution must be abided by and upheld as long as there is anything to defend it with. On the other hand, parliament and people are cautiously advised to be conciliating with the king if by any means this can be obtained. This is our prayer.

(*Exit.*)

(*The premier occupies the chair, with the secretary close in his rear.*)

Premier.—The Secretary of the State will read the order of the parliamentary session.

Sec.—Be it understood that the session of parliament is to resume the order of the last session in the case of the disinherittance of Mourine II. by the king, whose answer is now to be acted upon by parliament.

Premier.—What is parliament going to do: Is parliament ready to sanction the Declaration of Disinherittance?

Attorney.—Your honor: Parliament is in suspense to hear the answer of the king.

Premier.—The sovereign considers it below his dignity to treat with parliament on a petty question of this kind. He sets forth that, when a natural heir is not a guarantee for the safety of the throne, the right of succession of the natural heir is forfeited and the sovereign has power to disinherit said heir, or heiress to the throne by a Declaration of Disinherittance without the sanction of parliament, just as I have stated it in the last session. But this is really not the answer.

Sec. (aside.)—You made that up yourself. *Prem.*—No, I wrote it down.

Attorney.—So is the king making the constitution a dead letter—

Fr. the Left.—Your honor: Is there any provision made against the violation of the constitution by the sovereign?

Premier.—Provision is: The sovereign must abide by the constitution—but that's all.

Fr. the Center.—Your honor: What is the real answer of the king?

Premier.—It's a short one!

Sec. (*aside*.)—Is the passage clear in the rear?

Prem. (*aside*)—What! to run away? No, sir!

Attorney.—Your honor? Parliament is in suspense to hear the answer of the king.

Premier.—Is parliament prepared to hear me read it? Mind you, it's a short one!

(*Shouts*.)—Yes, prepared for anything!

Sec. (*aside*.)—Now, don't make a mistake. Prem. (*aside*)
No, unless the king did.

Premier.—Then, here is the answer of the king. All listen!

—“In less than ten days I shall enter the capital of the Hobbies with the constitution fixed on the points of a hundred thousand bayonets.

“LOUIS PHILIP IV.,

“King of the Hobbies.”

(*A tremendous uproar takes possession of the entire parliament hall mingled with enthusiastic shouts, and yells for Mourine II. Loud cries are heard from the left “king, or constitution,” whereupon the most extreme radicals seize the premier and the Secretary of State and drag them down into the prison cell. Measures against any opposition are taken by the military authorities having charge of Public Safety throughout the capital. After the worst storm of violence begins to settle, the leaders of the mob call for order and Karl Hanno is installed by parliament to preside over them under the title of “Director,” for the purpose of setting up a provisional government. And Titus becomes his secretary to assist him.*)

Director Karl Hanno.—In consequence of the answer of the king which is identical with revolutionary proceedings, we, the parliament and the representatives of the nation, recognize the necessity of a provisional government for the purpose of upholding and of defending the country against the king, who by act of parliament is herewith deposed, and Mourine II. by right of succession as his natural heir to the throne,

proclaimed "Regent" until the time of conflict is brought to a settlement—Is there any opposition?

(*Shouts.*)—No opposition! All hail Mourine II. Hail! Hail! Hurrah for Mourine II.!

Regent Mourine II.—(*Speech from the throne*)—To the parliament:

In God We Trust.

—Viewing the situation of these pressing moments so forced upon us from causes that we really do not understand, I am moved to say that I sincerely regret my position under circumstances, such as these. A conflict with an external enemy would awaken enthusiasm with manifest patriotic devotion, but a conflict with an internal enemy, and especially a child proceeding against her own father is simply unnatural. But aside from this, there are often duties to perform which before right and justice are above sentiment. I cannot but recognize my duty to respond to the call of the people who with love and devotion to the country and its constitution are availing themselves of their duty as is right and proper to do to maintain the position of the nation correct. And the duty of mine, which has devolved upon me on this day, I solemnly promise to be faithful to with the best of my knowledge in the capacity as Regent of the Provisional Government. This is our prayer.

Director.—Thus: We adopt the following resolutions:

—FIRST: An army of 300,000 men to be sent immediately against the king, who is now on the march upon our capital.

—SECOND. A proclamation of martial law to be issued in every city exposed to attacks and violence from any opposition against the Provisional Government.

—THIRD: An Army Order to be issued to the troops under the king's command to lay down arms and side with the Provisional Government; the soldiers in case of refusal to be treated as rebels.

—FOURTH: A commission to be sent to our belligerent enemy declaring the king of the Hobbies as deposed by the Provisional Government, and any peace or treaty concluded with said deposed king to be declared "Null and Void" by the Provisional Government.

—FIFTH: That the Provisional Government is willing to conclude peace with the belligerent enemy on terms honorable to the Hobby nation.

—SIXTH: Any time, on or before the expiration of eleven days after date, if the king shall surrender and acknowledge the rightful succession of Mourine II. as provided by the Constitution of the Hobbies, the king to be granted pardon and return to the sovereignty of power; but if the king after said date shall continue hostilities against the country and the Provisional Government, the king to be declared as dethroned.

— Is there any opposition?

Attorney.—The deposed king to return to the sovereignty of power, is that to the interests of the country?

Titus (*aside*).—Your interests, you know

Karl (*aside*) —I know, but we name it the "country's interests."

Director—The term of grace stands only for a figure: Rather than to surrender the king would blow off his head. These resolutions will go into effect after bearing the signature of the regent. Parliament will meet again on further notice.

(All leave. Karl H. and Titus repair to the Waiting Parlor.)

Titus.—There is one good thing about the king: Whatever he intends to do he will do it aside from any two-faced proceeding. Had the answer of the king been formed in a compromising way, we could not hope for decisive results. But as matters stand now, quick will be the movements; decisive will be the stroke. One or the other will have to go to the wall.

Karl H.—I can't see why the king is so resolute in his purpose just now, at a time when the country is at war.

Titus.—That's easy to guess. I believe now the king waged war himself. Knowing that he would have a conflict with parliament concerning the scheme of the Prince of Crain, the king declared war. He has gone to the front, and he has placed the army under his immediate command. The conflict with parliament has come and he is now ready to make a stroke. He is a sharper.

Karl H.—A sharper? I think he has miscalculated his game: The king being away from the capital, gives the opposing party all the advantages in the world. Poor good old king. He thinks now he is doing something great when he can make the earth tremble to force through his will. You see he wants to make his own destiny——

Titus.—And that of the Prince of Crain, too.

Karl H.—Certainly! And also that of the nation. Poor good old king, he has no idea that the Almighty is using him as a vassal for the purpose of carrying out my destiny.

Titus.—Crackerty; wreckerty; Karl, are you worth so much that the Almighty uses kings and nations,

sacrificing thousands of human lives just because to carry out your destiny?

Karl H.—Don't ask me.

Titus.—Well I am not going to ask the Almighty neither. How is Mourine?

Karl H.—The unchanged Mourine for ever; free from guilt before God and men; sweet like the roses of Eden; like the lily in the valley, she is beautiful, and as on the day of the Yoyal Reception she sways my heart because she is lovely.

Titus.—That's enough!

(Mourine II enters with an escort of two young ladies. She hands Karl a letter. He reads:)

BUDA-PAAR, August 28th.

"UNWORTHY DAUGHTER, MOURINE."

"Upon the face of what is transpiring in the capital at home, together with that ridiculous term of grace dictated to me in the name of parliament, of which you, and your lover, Karl Hanno, are solely the cause, I do hereby solemnly set before you that if you will not part with your lover within three days, and give up the intended union with him; begging your pardon of me; dissolve the Provisional Government, and be henceforth an obedient child, you shall then be declared an "Outlaw," and your supporters shall be treated as rebels. After a five days march I shall be at the home capital with an army of 300,000 men to execute my edict and decrees. Only One thing is possible for you to save your throne namely: To comply with my wishes and to marry the Prince of Crain.

"YOUR ROYAL FATHER."

Karl H.—What a father! What has entered the king's head? It is awful.

Y. Ladies.—It is dreadful. It is awful to think about it.

Mourine II.—So am I an "Outlaw." (*She sinks on the sofa weeping, Karl and the ladies assitting her.*)

Titus.—Then let the iron hand of destiny decide the fate!

Karl H.—Evil against evil; free from guilt before God and men, and innocent as we are, Mourine, we can rest easy.

Mourine II.—Unchanged as I am in my rightful policy, I shall remain so, since upon my conviction it is the guilty that ought to yield.

(Karl and Titus remain. The others leave.)

Titus.—Confound it! he is a wicked king.

Karl H.—You are satisfied of that, are you?

Titus.—Yes! and I wouldn't regret it at all to see his head go down into the barrel and there have a quarrel with Mephistopheles.

Karl H.—What good would that do us?

Titus.—Good deal of good; he'd be out of the way. Don't you see the point?

Karl H.—No! The Child of Destiny shall keep his hands clean from anyone's blood, even should I fail in my purpose, which could be only a wicked one. But if Destiny will dispose of all odds now against me and lead me to victory, I have no objection.

Titus.—And that's just what it will do. Let them plot against you; let them scheme as much as they please: the king and the Prince of Crain will find out that man is not the maker of his own destiny.

Karl H.—Just now they've got the best end of the rope.

Titus.—It will avail them nothing. You know how that goes: Suddenly heaven will change its face again, push you on to the front, and prostrate will lay the odds now against you—

Karl H.—That is to say that they have the best end

of the rope, but that I have the better hold. Is that it?

Titus.—Yes! For you are the Child of Destiny, wreck-erty crackerty! (*Exeunt.*)

(*Enter—Mourine II. escorted by two young lady servants, her royal mother, the Attorney, the Secretary of War and the Chief Advisor.*)

Mourine II. (*all do her homage*)—This day will reach the climax of the crisis (*shouts*)—God save the queen. Hurrah! Hurrah for Mourine II.—continued—I have just received a letter from my royal father in which he demands the dissolution of the Provisional government and demands to know within three days whether or not I will part with my policy and comply with his wishes; if not, I shall be an “Outlaw” and my supporters shall be treated as rebels. In addition to that, I can only save my throne upon condition of concluding a union with the Prince of Crain. I ask your advice.

Advisor.—Your Royal Highness is advised to remain steadfast in your policy which is acknowledged by the Provisional Government.

Sec. of War.—So is the army of the Provisional Government of 300,000 men now ready to meet the king at any time.

Mourine II.—But the king has over 800,000.

Sec. of War.—Yes, yes, your Highness, I understand, but we have 2,000,000 militia. (*A message is brought in. He reads.*) Listen!

“300,000 men under the king’s command have deserted and will join the cause of the Provisional Government.”—Now then are the forces about equal and we are a little bit ahead. Mind you: One great stroke will decide it all. (*Enter—Karl H. and Titus.*)

Titus.—(*Excited.*) Nonsense!—Why not at once crown Mourine II. and proclaim her queen?

Attorney.—For one reason: The term of grace has not yet expired.

Advisor.—And for another reason: Should the king's arms triumph over those of the Provisional Government, the fate of Mourine II. would be harder than ever. Let things develop to maturity!

Mourine II.—And I would object to anything too hastily done. We must follow events. I am not in sympathy with imprudent measures.

Queen.—No! It will not do. The outcome of the conflict with the king must first be awaited. All else must be suspended.

Advisor.—And should the Provisional Government triumph, Mourine II. may be crowned, and be proclaimed "Queen of the Hobbies."

Mourine II.—But remember: Whatever you will do, be conciliating. (*Exit.*)

Advisor.—I suggest that the crowning of Mourine II. and her marriage with Karl Hanno take place at the same time.

Karl H.—But only after the conflict with the king.

Advisor.—It will be necessary for these points to be brought before parliament.

Attorney.—Certainly: All points having a political bearing must be brought before parliament. And now: Hip, hip, hip, hurrah for Mourine II. and Karl Hanno—Hurrah!

(*All leave. Karl H. and Titus remain.*)

Karl H.—Great heavens! If everybody should have such trouble about getting a man's daughter—

Titus.—Then what?

Karl H.—He would have Bills of Trouble.

Titus.—Exactly; you see that's all the father gets. I don't blame him.

Karl H.—And as for me?—

Titus.—For you? Keep right in the channel of the moving events.

Karl H.—O, certainly! Hope not to strike a political sandbar.

Titus.—No! it will be a rock, if anything.

Karl H.—And founder? O, no! Heaven forbid. But, however things may go, Titus, we shall stay together.

Titus.—So we shall, according to our pledges made with each other, never to part in our combined efforts until the fairest conditions of life and happiness are established, and to share our lot with each other.

Karl H.—Indeed we shall, Titus, for these are my sincere wishes, and whatever my welfare may be in the days yet to come, remember, you shall share it with me. And if it comes to pass that sooner or later I shall be seated on the throne of this mighty nation, you shall share half of my power and glory.

Titus.—I see in you the man in his original purity. Many, many, when they become prominent men forget those they have left behind them. Not so with us: The world will recognize the true example that we have set before them: that we have never left each other in destitution; when one had more than the other, we have cheerfully divided; when one was happy, we both were. We have loved each other with manly love, and we have sympathized with each other's misfortune. Thousands of men will feel guilty of their selfishness when looking this example of ours in the face, and without this example there is no hope for paradise ever to return again.

Karl H.—Thoughts most sublime these are coming forth from the depth of your soul in his original purity, Titus. But these are words that can

hardly be weighed in the scale of the world's estimation, and I fear the world will not recognize our example inasmuch as the world is not true to herself. Paradise is lost to man because man has lost his original purity. But paradise is still there where purity exists, and if the world will not recognize our example, we shall nevertheless part, nor part with this immortal example.

(Maurine enters, Titus does her highness homage and leaves the room).

Mourine II.—Karl forever; Mourine forever: No words can express the weight felt upon my soul. No man has ever been so great to stay the hand of Destiny. King, or queen, or whatever sovereign he may be, his veto does amount to nothing in this case. Where is the man that makes his own destiny. And who is He that makes mine? Trembling I stand before the laws supreme; alas! here is no appeal. But I am the same Unchanged Mourine forever, against whom shall founder anything that shall come between us. This is all that I can say to-day. And if we do not triumph, we must perish as I am declared an "Outlaw" by my royal father.

Karl H.—Mourine forever; Karl forever: Think that it is not man who is making destiny for another. Right and justice will remain with the innocent and it is the guilty that shall perish. You are Mourine II., Regent of the Provisional Government. The nation stands by you as a unit and they are ready to serve at your command. Oh, Mourine! How yet are you so highly exalted even though the situation is as it is to-day. And when the moment will come in which I shall see all of

my wishes answered, all will be made new and the Sun of happiness shall rise over us and shine for ever. For I am the Child of Destiny.

(*They join parliament*).

Mourine II.—To the Parliament of the Provisional Government and to the representatives of the nation:

In God We Trust.

—To-day our beloved nation is weighed in the Scale of Destiny and it will be decided by men and arms what was decided in the council of the Higher Ordinance long before this. We cannot forbid ourselves to think that our cause is fairly entitled to victory when we consider that we are in harmony with the constitution, and that the unjust cause will not be permitted to triumph over the just one. Intelligence has reached us that the foreign war has ceased, and peace is concluded. This is to say that the king has his hands free to turn them against us with the whole force under his command. He is now demanding the dissolution of the Provisional Government and our unconditional surrender. On the other hand we delight in the fact that 300,000 men under the king's command have deserted and joined our cause. The opposing forces are now about equal and by this desertion we hope that our national cause will triumph and bring the conflict to a speedy close. This is our prayer. (*Exit*).

Director (K. H).—The Committee of Public Safety is charged to take measures against all sympathizers of the king to secure order throughout the capital.

Attorney.—Your honor: The fate of the Provisional Government must be decided to-day, and in the

name of parliament I suggest that if the cause of the Provisional Government shall triumph on this day, Mourine II., the only natural and rightful heir to the throne, shall be crowned and be proclaimed "Mourine II., Queen of the Hobbies."

(*All shout*).

--No opposition! Hurrah! for Mourine II. Hurrah!

Director (K. H.)—The suggestion is carried without opposition.—Now what I desire to say regarding myself, is this: This day we shall either triumph, or perish with our cause, and I do hereby solemnly promise before her royal Highness and before the representatives of the nation that if the cause of the Provisional Government shall triumph this day, I shall relieve the nation of \$200,000,000 national debt.

Queen (king's wife).—How am I moved by the patriotic devotion of your Exeellency, Karl Hanno. The nation alone is able to reward you for a deed so unique in the history of the Hobbies. And in my royal capacity I do hereby express my wish before parliament, that on this day, if the cause of the Provisional Government shall triumph, Mourine II., my only daughter and child, shall be given you in marriage as at one time this was sanctioned by her royal father himself. (*Enthusiastic shouts from all quarters*). Hurrah for Karl Hanno! The country cheers. Peace and tranquility shall return again, and justice shall reign. Hurrah for Mourine II. and Karl Hanno!

Director (K. H.)—I find no words to tell the gratitude felt at my heart toward your royal Highness and toward all who have aided me in attaining my fortunate lot. And if this is a personal concern-

ment on the one hand, I am on the other equally as much grateful to all those who are bound by faith to stand by the standard of national unity and by the constitution of the land. And those who have a share in the government and have given their aid to the cause of right and justice, they shall be remembered with due reward as soon as I shall be in a position enabling me to do justice to their claims.

—(*All shout*)—Hurrah for Karl Hanno! Hip! Hip! Hip! Hurrah!

Sec. Titus.—To all whom it may concern!—I, the undisputed bearer of evidence in all cases concerning the honest character of Karl Hanno, do hereby bear witness before the multitudes of men of all shades and colors that the conduct of his life up to the present moment has been such, as to compare with the most pure among men. I have known him from his childhood and the marks he has left behind him are such as can be found on the records of men who have complied with their duties toward God and men. Thinking as we do that after this day he shall be a partner on the throne by the union with the equally honest and pure Mourine II., if Destiny shall this day let our cause triumph, the country may henceforth look with confidence and trust up to the throne whose safety then shall be secured, and the Constitution of the Hobbies be respected.

UPON MY NAME TITUS.

(*Mourine II. enters. She betrays apprehension and takes Karl Hanno a moment aside before she speaks*).

Mourine II.—To the Parliament:

—I am amazed. I apprehend danger to our cause. Yesterday the message came in that 300,000 men of

our troops were confronting the king and the great military genius, the Prince of Crain, to decide the great battle of to-day. And just now I have received another message that five cities have revolted against the Provisional Government in consequence of a proclamation issued by the king. What will come out of all this? It is awful!—Listen! All listen to me:

—Thus far there has not been *one* drop of blood shed for the sake of our cause, as far as we know, but what will be the ugly report of the great battle fought to-day? And what will follow next? Even the fact that we will triumph over the king, it is all the same horrible for me to think of raising my hand against my father, however wrong he may be in his action against me. And he will not give up. Thousands of valuable lives will be lost and property ruined. And on our part, just because to uphold the right of succession?—I will abdicate and surrender my right of succession to whomever it may go, just for humanity's sake to avoid all these evils. I, and my intended companion for life, we can be happy without a throne. Vainglory is not the motive of our ambition when this is to be reached by horrors, such as are threatening now. It is true that the duties before rights and justice are above sentiment, but on the other hand I refrain from a throne stained with blood, and this is equally true of my Lover.

Karl H. (Director.)—In speaking for myself, I confirm her statements. We can be happy without a throne: Being in control of \$600,000,000 I can buy a kingdom of my own if I want one, and we can afford to enjoy all that this world can give. And a throne, stained with blood, will certainly not increase my happiness.

Attorney.—Your Highness, your Excellency: I speak in the name of parliament, that this conflict with the king is a matter with the people; the constitution must not be made a dead letter and the rights of succession must be regarded. It is the people's case, not merely your's.

Sec. (Titus.)—Your Honor, your Royal Highness, listen! It will all be decided to-day, and at the very worst, by one great battle, and the loss of life, and property, will not be so great as would be the loss of our constitution. Just await the result of to-day.

Queen.—And I can say this much for my royal husband, that, if the great battle of to-day should result in his defeat, he will not sacrifice anything more for the Prince of Crain. Just wait!

Mr. the Left.—Your honor: The interests of the king go further than the manifest interests in the Prince of Crain: He stumbles too much over the constitution and he wants to do away with it. (*Shouts*). Such a king we don't want!

(*A messenger enters and hands a message to the secretary. He reads.*)

Sec. (Titus).—All listen!

—“The result of to-day:

—“The king shares the same lot with Alexander the Great: Yesterday, a very hot day, and being exhausted, the king was drinking too much wine, and suddenly a very hot fever fell upon him which could not be checked. He died a natural death early this morning at four o'clock before a drop of blood of the intended great battle of the day was drawn. In consequence of this, all the troops under his command have laid down arms and treat for pardon, on the ground that, as true soldiers, they were simply obeying the king. The remains of the

king are on the way home. And the Prince of Crain has escaped to America.

—"Signed by the Commander-in-Chief of the army of the Provisional Government."

(Universal joy takes possession of the parliament hall and from all quarters enthusiastic shouts are heard for Mourine II. and Karl Hanno, who, in a standing position, have clasped hands together, while the Attorney is bearing the crown, with Titus assisting him.)

Attorney.—Mourine II., the only natural heir to the throne, now after the king's death is hereby proclaimed "Mourine II., Queen of the Hobbies." Here is the crown of the Hobby nation, and a throne not stained with blood.

(She takes the crown and places it upon her brow herself and is proclaimed "Queen of the Hobbies.")

Sec. (Titus. *He places his hand upon the locked hands of Mourine II. and Karl Hanno.)*—This is to certify that a Union of Karl Hanno and Mourine II. is now concluded by this matrimony. They being now husband and wife together.

Queen Mourine II.—As I have no natural heirs, it is constitutional to abdicate my throne in favor of my husband, and I do under this Act in presence of parliament transfer my crown to my husband under the title of "Karl Hanno I., King of the Hobbies."

(Karl Hanno wears the crown. He is cheered from all quarters "King of the Hobbies", the ideal of the people, and Mourine, the innocent beloved, his companion.)

Karl Hanno I.—This is the moment in which I see now all of my wishes answered: Child of Destiny; \$600,000,000; Mourine Mine Forever; King of the Hobbies. The dream of my life has now become a reality and the Program of Destiny has ended.

(All leave.)

[THE END.]

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